# OUR FLYING NAVY





### Read how this new kind of spark plug peps up lazy, spark-weary motors

"IT'S amazing, the difference in the way my car runs I since I put in those new Auto-Life Spark Plugs! That's what owners of all makes of cars are saying as increasing thousands change to this sensational new kind of spark plug.

Often this one simple change holds the secret of quick, sure starting for sluggish motors - of flashing pickup and power - of smooth, even engine performance at all speeds - of substantial savings due to elimination of

gas waste.

The performance of any car depends upon the efficiency of its ignition system. And Auto-Lite Spark Plugs have been expressly developed by ignition engineers to increase the efficiency of the ignition system by working in balanced harmony with it. They her with less electrical strain-and that means a smooth, uniform flow of power, with faster pickup and livelier engine performance.

Next time you see the Auto-Lite sign, why not stop for a free inspection of your spark plugs? Cleaning and proper setting of the electrodes costs only a few cents; and you will save money by replacing worn-out plugs

with new Auto-Lites-they cost no more.



### LISTENING TO AN ENGINE'S HEART-BEAT

Using a sensitive stethoscope, Auto-Lite engineers test the orformance of Auto-Lite Spark Plugs under actual operating conditions. No guess work here.

THE ELECTRIC AUTO-LITE COMPANY Merchandising Division

TOLEDO, OHIO

SARNIA, ONTARIO

"YE'RE HOLDIN' UP TRAFFIC," the cop sex. "Get that jaloppy off the road!" I step on the gas but nothing happens. The old bus acts like she's glied to the spot.

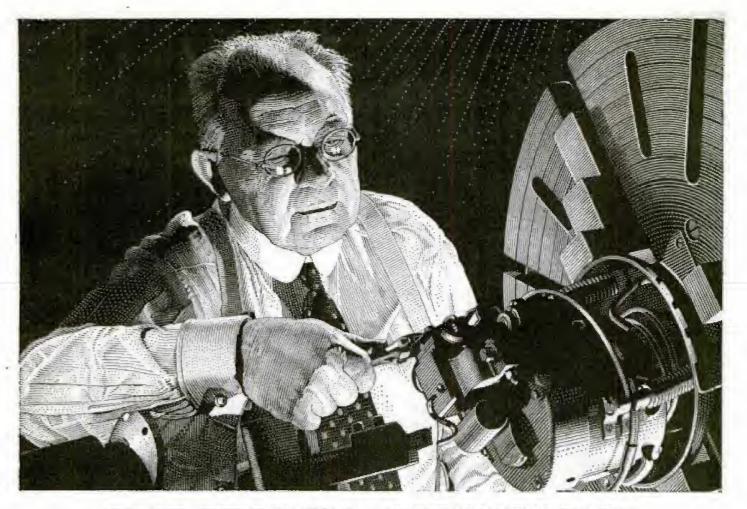


"THIS BUS IS READY TO JUNK," I beef to the service Put in Auto-Lite Spark Plugs, guy. Put in Auto-Lite Spans to the fast She'll take your hat off when you give her the gas



"HI, PAL!" I yells, next time I pass that cop, His eyes nearly pop out at how the old car shoots ahead with new Auto-Lites on the job.

IGNITION ENGINEERED BY IGNITION ENGINEERS



### THE STORY OF STEENSTRUP

IN 1901 a young Danish toolmaker began work in the General Electric shops in Schenectady. One day he hit on an idea for making a machine safer and more efficient. The boss had his doubts, but Chris Steenstrup proved his idea would work. Today, beloved by his fellow engineers, with 110 patents to his credit, Chris is still looking for ways to improve things.

Chris welcomes tough engineering assignments. For instance, he solved one of the toughest problems in the building of Dr. Alexanderson's great radio alternators which made possible radio communication with Europe during the World War. Back when there were very few domestic electric refrigerators in the country, Chris got the job of devising a long-lived

and efficient refrigerator. After months of work he designed a mechanism that ushered in a new era in American living. For from it General Electric developed the first sealed-in-steel refrigerator mechanism—the principle that has helped bring the comforts of electric refrigeration to 14 million American families.

Chris Steenstrup's contributions to more comfortable living are typical of the hundreds made by General Electric men and women. For years they have been putting electricity to work in the home and in industry, helping to make all manufactured products more plentiful and less expensive, enriching our lives—providing More Goods for More People at Less Cost.

G-E research and engineering have saved the public from ten to one hundred dollars for every dollar they have earned for General Electric





"Hope to be seeing you soon." . . . "Gee, it's swell to hear your voice." . . . "We're all well here."

No great words of business or state are these—just the homey, every-day conversations that are America. The thoughts and hopes and remembrances that bind families and friends together. The flow of understanding that helps to make this a united nation.

Always the Bell System stands ready to help
... to do its part quickly, cheaply, courteously, in
the manner of a friend.



# Popular Mechanics Magazine

H. H. WINDSOR, Founder

H. H. WINDSOR, Jr., Editor and Publisher

June, 1940

Vol. 73, No. 6

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### Billion-Bushel Market Place

VENTURING for the first time, unenlightened, into that vast hall at the foot of LaSalle street in Chicago, you'd wonder what was the bitter argument among those shouting, gesticulating men. Fists and fingers fly, but there are no casualties; for this apparent disorder is in reality the orderly trading of unharvested grain crops in the world's largest commodity market place—the Chicago Board of Trade, where five billion bushels of wheat alone were bought and sold last year. One of those flying fists may be signaling a \$10,000 sale. A feature in the July issue takes you behind the scenes on the Board.

### Masters of Destruction

RACING a four-horse team in front of the movie camera, the stunt driver closes a switch, leaps, and the wagon dissolves in the roar of a dynamite bomb, wheels flying high. Shells burst five feet from soldiers in war scenes, Atlanta burns safely in jets from an oil pipe line. Read next month about these Hollywood destroyers who play with powder.

### Next Month

BIG fires were once little, and the difference between a flicker and a conflagration is a matter of minutes. In the July issue Chief Peter Kiernan of the Newark Fire Department offers sound advice for emergencies—what's the first thing to do with an electrical fire, with blazing grease in the kitchen, with burning clothes? Here's one tip in advance: if you smell smoke, feel the door before you open it to investigate; if it's hot, don't open. Death's on the other side.

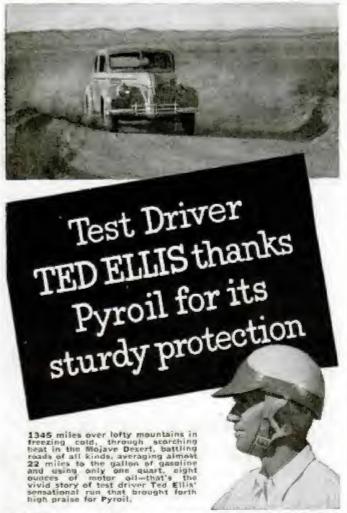
### Earth Goes to Sea

HOW deep is a farm? Skin off the six to eighteen inches of topsoil and you have no farm, only a sterile wedge of earth. Yet that's what's happening; every year three billion tons of fertile soil are eroded from American farms, flowing to sea in muddy rivers, darkening the sky with dust storms. But Uncle Sam has begun to fight back. An article in July tells of the war against erosion with soil-stopping furrows, dams, trees and crop rotation.

### Secrets of Slugging

FEW baseball thrills compare with hitting a homer with the bases full. It should be easy; batting is merely an application of mechanical principles. But the best sluggers disagree on how to bat, and Babe Ruth didn't follow the rule of hitting level. Next month Harry Danning, New York Giants' catcher, offers you some "Secrets of Big League Batting."

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Ted Ellis is one of those courageous fellows who risk their necks testing automobiles in a dangerous way. "Recently," says Ellis, "I completed a 1345 mile test run using a car which I completely serviced with Pyroil prior to and throughout the entire run.

"The motor was sealed and the car driven through mountains, desert, heat, cold, over all kinds of roads. The excellent results secured bear out to me that the continued use of Pyroil will give a motorist protection to his engine and a more economical and better running car."

Top drivers of the world, and millions of car owners, use Pyroil. It safeguards against acid attack on metal parts. Removes hard carbon, gum and studge contaminations. Improves operation. Offsets many common, often costly, repairs. Only a few ounces needed at merely a few cents cost.

Ask your favorite service station or garage for a trial Pyroil service, today. Manufactured and guaranteed by Pyroil Company, W. V. Kidder, Founder, 56 Pyroil Bidg., LaGrosse, Wisconsin, U. S. A.



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Alone and penniless, armed only with the ideas that filled his brain, he challenges the world—determined to wrest success from the grasp of the great city.



Romance enters his life when he meets lovely Mary Stillwell . . . but instead of interfering with his work, it helps him forge ahead . . . with a new will to succeed.



Soon he invents the stock ticker. For it he receives \$40,000, though he would have taken \$2,000! His first success—his first step toward fame and fortune!

# With a Dime and a Dream... HE CHANGED THE WORLD!

HIS LIFE was a wild adventure...
though he spent most of it in a littered laboratory. Never did a man work so hard—fail so often—and succeed so brilliantly!

The whole astounding story is told by Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer in "Edison the Man"—the drama of an adventurous, inventive mind eager to grapple with any untried idea—and the human story of a warm-hearted man, his love, his kindness, his wit, his jolly, genial delight in his friends.

Spencer Tracy plays the role of Edison magnificently. Again this gifted artist presents a fine and true screen characterization—the most demanding of his career. This is one of the important pictures of our time—don't miss it!

# told by on the turous, ith any tory of s kind-ight in Edison artist tracternis carnictures

# Spencer TRACY AS EDISON THE MAN

CA CLARENCE BROWN Production
with RITA JOHNSON · LYNNE OVERMAN
CHARLES COBURN · GENE LOCKHART
Henry Travers · Felix Bressart

Directed by CLARENCE BROWN

Produced by John W. Considine, Jr. Screenplay by Talbot Jennings and Bradbury Foote A Metro - Goldwyn - Mayer Picture



9,000 failures! They called him a fake—a charlatan. But he believed in his dreams! He knew that he could grapple with the mystery of the electric light—and win!



The dynamo explodes! Five hours left to light the city—or be branded a failure forever! "We can change the world in five hours!" shouted Edison—and he did!



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# Plan Your Future

### **Choose Your Field NOW For Success**

Will you master fate or will fate master you? That's a question deserving your honest answer...right now! Actually it is largely up to you. You can do with Life almost what you will. LaSalle will help you establish yourself for real success by providing you with the comprehensive, specialized training for which it is so famous. Choose your field . . . now! Check the coupon below for the free booklet you want us to send you. It can be your first step toward assured success.

Opportunities in Traffic Management

The field of Traffic Management offers real opportunity only to the man who knows. Spare time study and the will to succeed have pushed scores of Traffic employees up the ladder to financial success. Many LaSalle-trained traffic managers—both in the railroad and industrial field—now command salaries of \$3,000.00 to \$5,000.00 a year—and better. Investigate. Find out how you can qualify for these higher positions through LaSalle homestudy and guidance.

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And it isn't necessary to practice law to get this Success. In fact probably most of the men who study law today have no idea of taking the bar examination or becoming lawyers—they want law training to give them mastery of men and situations in business. You know that—

- the man with legal training is a leader—not a follower.
- (2) legal training keens your mind—clears away the problems that stump the ordinary fellow and makes you master instead of man.
- (3) knowledge of law simplifies the complications of executive work.
- (4) Many top executive places are filled by men who have studied law.

No matter whether you are in a big corporation or a small business—in a great city or a little town—a practical knowledge of law cannot fail to be of real and vital help to you in making a more successful career.

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done, you can do.

And LaSalle offers either a full law course leading to LL. B. or a shorter business law training—whichever you prefer. All text material, including valuable 14-volume Law Library. Training comprises the most effective features of modern law instruction.

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### Become an Expert Accountant The Profession That Pays

The demand for skilled accountants—men who really know their business—is increasing rapidly. New state and federal legislation requires much more, and more efficient accounting from business—big and small. Corporations are in constant need of expert counsel in matters relating to Auditing, Cost Accounting, Business Law, Organization, Management, Finance. Men who prove their qualifications in this important branch of business are rapidly promoted to responsible executive positions—given an opportunity to earn real salaries. The range is from \$2,000.00 to \$10,000.00 a year—even to higher income figures.

Under the LaSalle Problem Method you can at home acquire a thoro understanding of Higher Accountancy, master its fundamental principles, become expert in the practical application of these principles—this without losing an hour of work or a dollar of pay.

Your training will be under the direct supervision of a staff of legal, organization and management specialists, business efficiency engineers and Certified Public Accountants.

Preliminary knowledge of bookkeeping is unnecessary. We train you from the ground up, or from where you now are, according to your individual needs.

### Mr. Salesman: What's Wrong?

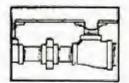
Why aren't you making more sales—more money? Is it you—or your proposition? Check up first on yourself. Other men—no better than you—have found their earnings jump and stay up when they trained with LaSalle. Literally thousands of men—many of them years at the game—have increased their sales volume and earnings through home study with LaSalle guidance. Sound—practical—usable—right from field experience. Train for top-notch production with LaSalle.

	NIVERSITY A CORRESPON		
I would like to have your sp opportunities and your succes	ecial booklet—without any cost ss training in the business field I h	or obligation to me—about my nave checked.	STANCY
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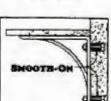
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# For Quick Repairs

### that cost little and are permanent



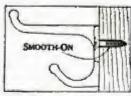
Pipe Leaks



Anchoring in masonry



Boiler Leaks



Tightening loose or stripped screws

WHEN boiler or tank seams or pipe joints start to leak, or when screws, bolts, handles or fixtures become loose, these are the times that SMOOTH-ON No. 1 comes in handy. With a few cents worth of SMOOTH-ON and a few minutes of time, you can do as perfect and lasting a repair job as a skilled mechanic, and avoid the expense of new parts.

SMOOTH-ON repairs require no heat, no special tools, and no previous experience. Just mix and apply in accordance with simple instructions, and the job is finished. There are dozens of places, in every home and shop, where SMOOTH-ON can be advantageously used.

Get SMOOTH-ON in 1%-oz., 7-oz., 1-lb. or 5-lb. can from your hardware store or from us. For your protection, insist on Smooth-On—used

since 1895.

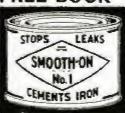
# SMOOTH-ON CEMENTS

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### FREE

40-Page SMOOTH-ON Handbook containing dozens of suggestions unobtainable elsewhere for saving time and money in repair jobs all around the house, in the shop, and on the car. Send the coupon for your copy.

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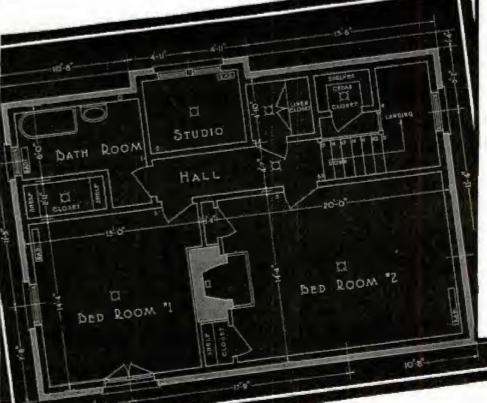
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### IMPORTANT NOTICE

It is the intention of this magazine to provide its readers with information regarding the latest developments in the mechanical arts. We take no responsibility as to whether the disclosures contained in our articles are covered by patents and advise readers to investigate this subject before making, using, or selling any of the products, machines, or processes described, in order to avoid possible liability for patent infringement.





Some of the errors in this print are obvious. But it takes a trained man to read blueprints satisfactorily—or to get ahead in a complex. specialized world such as ours!

The man without training is usually the man without money. Look around, and you'll see how true that is. It's up to you to get the training you need, while the getting's good!

Get it "the I.C.S. way," as thousands of successful men have done. Fit yourself for a bigger, better paying position.

Mail this coupon—not tomorrow, but now!

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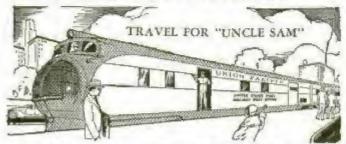
\$1260 to \$2100 Year

**OVER 52,000 APPOINTMENTS IN** 1939 GOV'T YEAR.

### THOUSANDS APPOINTMENTS EACH YEAR.

### Railway Postal Clerks

Railway Postal Clerks get \$1,900 the first year regular, being paid on the first and fifteenth of each month. (\$79.17 each pay day.) Their pay is automatically increased yearly to \$2,450. Advance may be had to Chief Clerk at \$2,700 a year. (\$112.50 each pay day.)



### 3 Days On — 3 Days Off — Full Pay

Railway Postal Clerks on long runs usually work 2 days and have 3 days off duty or in the same proportion. During this off duty their pay continues just as though they were working. They travel on a pass when on business. When they grow old, they are retired with a pension.

### City Mail Carriers, Post Office Clerks

Clerks and Carriers now get \$1,760 the first year on regular and automatically increase \$100 a year to \$2,100 and \$2,300.



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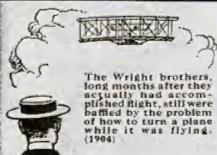
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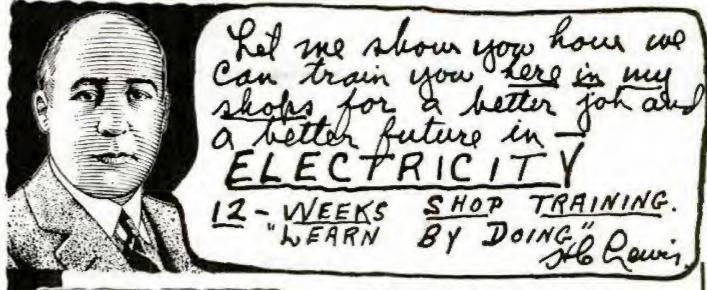
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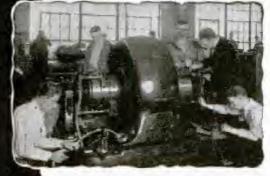
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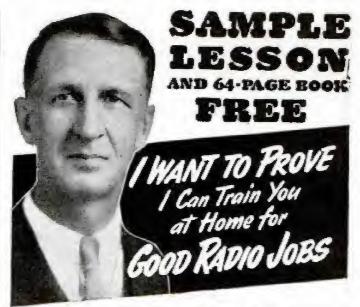


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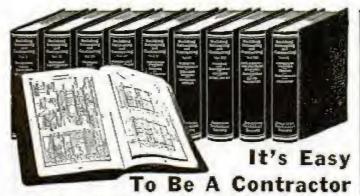
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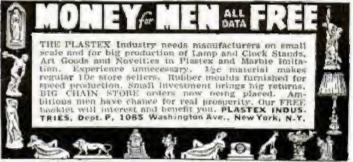
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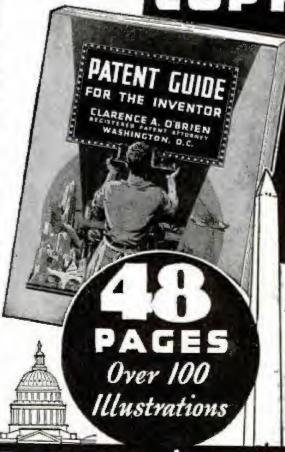
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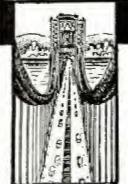
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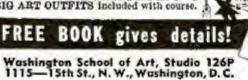
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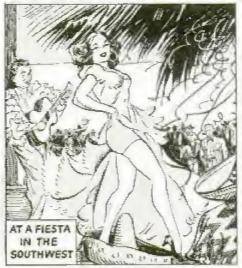
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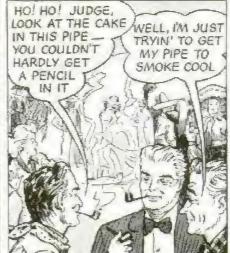
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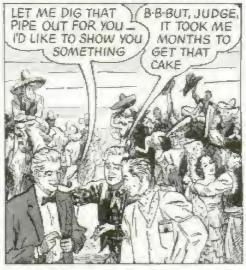
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# Popular Mechanics Magazine

WRITTEN SO YOU CAN UNDERSTAND IT

Vol. 73

JUNE, 1940

No. 6



JUNE, 1940

hen foot uses.

Leeps, gagu

tank as minerals are added to soil. Top, injecting minerals into tree to supply soil deficiency; below, cellulose acetate handbag

801

essed from material extracted from vegetable fiber. The walls of your room may have had their start as sugar cane on a Cuban plantation. The paper of your cigarette is probably made of flax straw and the chances are that its tobacco was cured with the help of a corn product. What has been happening to corn is just one example of the possibilities that chemists foresee

article that does not or could not use a product of corn in its manufacture. Five and a half pounds of material used in the manufacture of plastics are available in every bushel of corn.

Clothing from casein that is procured from skim milk is manufactured in Europe by a process resembling the conversion of wood into rayon. Lignin obtained from wood is a new cover material for metal objects. Power alcohol is being distilled from farm wastes and eventually may consume large portions of corn and grain crops.

The versatile soybean that you can eat or mold into doorknobs is also being made to pose for the whites of eggs, a material in demand for candies and desserts. Petroleum ether is added to soybean flour to remove the fats, hydrochloric acid is used to remove material that gives a bitter taste, and the resulting powder is an ideal synthetic egg white.

Under a new process

What has been happening to corn is just one example of the possibilities that chemists foresee for numerous other farm products. Corn on the cob and corn in the can almost seem to be by-products now that cornstarch is used in the textile, paper and laundry industries, corn syrup is used in the rayon, tanning, and tobacco curing industries, and corn dextrins go into the manufacture of ink, mucilage, explosives and plyboard glues.

Yeast, dusting powder, coloring matter, paper, glycerin, carbon dioxide, wallboard and twine are other present or potential corn products. One concern boasts that it would be difficult to name an



Top, distillation opparatus for measuring fumigant absorbed by citrus tree to prevent damage by overfumigation. Center, infrared lamp wards off frost damage in orchard. Bottom, working design in cellulose acetate panel made from vegetable fiber



found for agricultural products, the chemists haven't been able to keep up with the farmers. Overproduction and surplus crops have been't the despair of agriculturists for years and so far the farmer has raised more tonnage than industry can use. Every time industry finds new uses for farm products

and thus helps solve overproduction, new discoveries in plant breeding or pest control seem to increase the size of harvests.

Farmers might be able to earn better livings if they lost this race to the chemists. To help them lose, the Department of Agriculture is opening four experiment stations devoted to seeking new non-food uses for crops. New clothing materials, building materials, insulating materials, and plastics are probable results that the experiment stations will achieve.

At the same time that science has been hunting non-food uses for the products of agriculture it has been learning a lot of new things about the food value of things to eat. Fresh vegetables from one garden,

(Gontinued to page 147A)

JUNE, 1940

and in dynamite.

Rapid as is the pace at

which new uses are being

& Bain

Lightweight Metal Stairway

Welded from Steel Channels



All-welded stairways made of hot rolled-steel channel sections are assembled at factory and ready for immediate installation

All-metal stairways, assembled at the factory, are delivered ready for installation in residences, apartments, housing projects or other buildings where they will require only light use. They are made of ten-inch hot rolled-steel channels, forming neat and rigid stairs that weigh only six and one-half pounds to the foot.

### Landing Gear in Army Air School Shows How It Works on Plane

To show the future mechanics of the U. S. army air corps what makes a bomber's landing gear "tick," a full-sized hydraulic gear has been installed



Students at school for army air corps mechanics take apart and reassemble full-size hydraulic landing gear of a big plane

in the ground school at Glendale, Calif. Mounted on a special framework which permits it to operate as if on a plane, the mechanism can be studied. Toward the close of the course, it is dismantled and

## Small Flash-Bulb Reflector Slips into Coat Pocket

reassembled by students.

So small that it can be carried conveniently in the photographer's pocket or camera accessory kit, a featherweight reflector now on the market is designed especially to accommodate the new Mighty Midget flash bulb. Made of spun aluminum, it is only five inches in diameter; but despite its limited surface it is claimed that



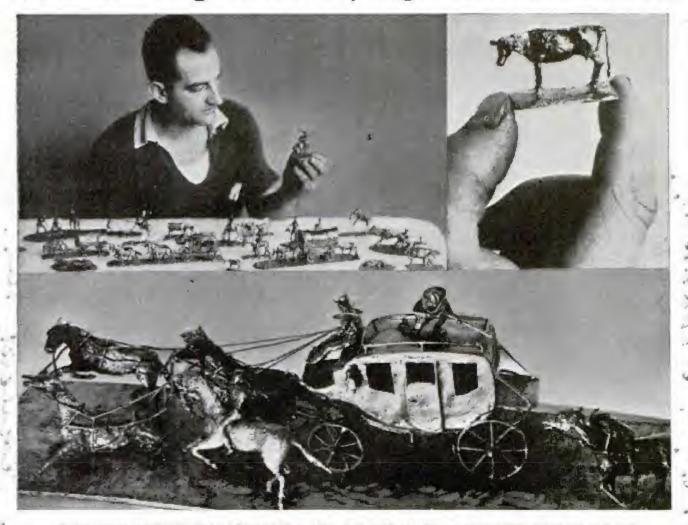
Ready to "shoot" picture with flash bulb in new five-inch aluminum reflector

the reflector greatly increases the illuminating power of the tiny flash bulb. This is made possible by using every bit of available light, all the rays being directed in a straight line. The new reflector is adaptable to any flash gun.

[Deciding on a limit of forty pounds of paint per plane, an air-search that developed a one-coat lacquer weighing only fifteen pounds per plane and added five miles an hour to its air speed.

120 E. 3 4 rh haiget Cig

# Welder Sculptures Tiny Figures with a Torch



In ten years Floyd Nichols of David City, Neb., has welded just twenty-three miniature statues, shown above at left. At the right is the smallest, a steel and bronze cattle figure an inch long representing weeks of work. Below, "Stagecoach Attack," the most elaborate group, three inches high and made of 410 pieces, various metals being used for color contrast

As a boy, Floyd F. Nichols played sculptor with mud from the bank of a creek. He graduated from farm boy to cowhand, then repairman in a David City, Neb., auto and farm tool shop. There he began sculpturing tiny figures with a blowtorch. It was painstaking, painfully slow work shaping miniature cowboys, broncos, bits of the old west from droplets of steel, nickel, gold, bronze or copper under the heat of an acetylene flame. After ten years he had completed twenty-three miniature pieces worthy of exhibiting in a New York art gallery. The smallest, an inch-long steel and bronze cattle figure, took weeks to

shape. The largest, in which many different metals were used for color contrast, is a miniature stagecoach with four horses, one of them struck down by an arrow, and a cowboy on the roof firing at a pursuing Indian; three inches high, this group includes 410 pieces of metal. Mr. Nichols thus far has refused to sell any of his welded statuettes, although offered \$1,000 for one. Percy D. Cowan, director of Temple's Exhibition Galleries in New York, where the work was shown, said the Nebraskan had created "a new phase of art, typically American." Nichols uses a torch temperature of 1,600 to 2,600 degrees.

### Atom Smasher Discovers Substance Believed to Be Missing Element

What appears to be one of the two substances still missing from the table of elements was discovered with the help of the atom-smashing cyclotron at University of California. It would fit into space number

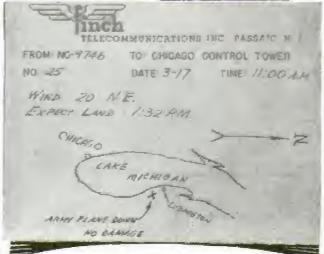
eighty-five, being related to iodine, chlorine, bromine and fluorine, and has been tentatively called eka-iodine. To complete the list of ninety-two, element number sixty-one remains to be discovered.

JUNE, 1940 Blikeley. Cale

: K121.

Facsimile Unit in Airplane Sends Map by Radio





Radio facsimile set in police car and plane cockpit, and map sketched by pilot and sent by radio

Flying down the eastern shore of Lake Michigan an aviator notices a U. S. army plane grounded and signaling for aid. Continuing on his course, the pilot sketches a map of the lake, marks with an "X" the approximate location of the disabled plane, inserts the sketch in the two-way facsimile

unit at the right of the cockpit and transmits message and map by radio to the Chicago airport. This is an example of the peacetime usefulness of the Finch facsimile device now being installed in airplanes as well as in police squad cars, where they "stand by" to receive or transmit pictures and reports. In military planes the units can radio to headquarters the location of troop concentrations, artillery emplacements and similar information, in complete secrecy, transmitter and receiver being coordinated to "scramble" the message into a hodgepodge which only the receiver can decode.

### Flexible Track for Toy Train Bends into Small Loop

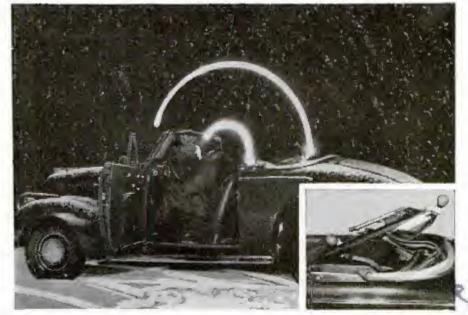
Flexible track now available for model or toy railroad builders can be bent to a radius as small as thirteen and one-half inches, ending one of the bugbears of the average "tinplate" user. If you step on the track accidentally, it merely increases its grip on the ties, due to the shape of the rail and method of fastening. Made in sections three feet long, the track is furnished either with only two rails, with a third rail in the center, or with every fifth tie longer so the owner can install his own outside third rail. The sections can be sawed easily into any desired lengths.



Smaller bends are possible with new flexible track that resists injury if stepped on accidentally

'Tracer Lights' Show Top Retracting into Car

To demonstrate the automatic top of a 1940 cabriolet, which disappears into the body at the touch of a dashboard control, "tracer lights" were placed on the top at two points and the top was retracted while a camera shutter remained open. The resulting picture showed two smooth curves tracing the path of the top as it folded away in a compartment behind the car seat. The motor vacuum operates the opening and closing mechanism of the top.



Two light bulbs mounted as shown in inset at right described smooth curves on photo film as the automobile top was retracted

# "Purifying' Bath of Fire for Soil Exterminates Farm Pests



Burners fed by gas from kerosene tank throw intense flames beneath metal shield, creating an "inferno" to consume lice in the soil after harvest

To purge soil of tiny lice which frequently infest it after onions and other vegetables have been harvested, a tractordrawn "inferno" spreads a deadly sheet of fire. Kerosene is stored in a pressure tank and converted into gas by preheating, a uniform heat of 2,000 degrees Fahrenheit being developed at each burner. A broad steel shield at the rear concentrates the flames over the ground area.

# Rear-Engine Fighting Airplane Has More Room for Mounting Arms

Additional space for armament and crew is provided in a new U. S. army plane by mounting its two engines at the rear with pusher propellers. Delivered recently by Bell Aircraft company, the ship weighs 17,500 pounds and is powered with Allison twelve-cylinder V-1710 type engines. It is known as the YFM-1.



This is called a multiplace army plane because use of pusher-type propellers and engines provide two extra "cabins" for crew and armament

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# SKY HIGH



THERMAL SOARING where Sailplane spirals up on "bubbles of warm air"

Top, takeoff of motorless plane. Circle, operating power winch for launching glider. Below, diagram showing two kinds of lifting air currents used by the sailplane pilot POR new thrills, American sport fans are turning to gliding. Sailplane clubs are springing up, manufacturers are studying production possibilities and the government is giving consideration to the glider in connection with its pilot training program.

A glider is a small, light airplane, but has no power plant. Yet the craft is able to sustain flight for hours, traveling cross-country for hundreds of miles and sometimes reaching altitudes of five or more miles. It is able to do this because in addition to surface winds blowing from every direction there are "up" winds generated by uneven heating of the earth. Under certain conditions these upward movements can attain near-gale force, lifting sail-plane and pilot at speeds up to twenty feet per

see ad Barbers ys

# Without a MOTOR



second. These sun-generated vertical winds are called thermals and recently acquired knowledge of the principles under which they function is responsible for tremendous strides made by soaring.

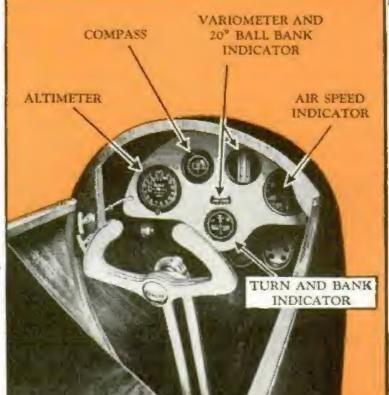
During the thirty-five years in which gliders have been flying in this country there have been so few fatalities that no record of them is available. Not a single fatality nor serious injury has marred any of the ten national glider meets held under Soaring Association of America auspices



Planes lined up for the takeoff (top), pilot taking wind-velocity reading before going aloft (center) and crew attaching wings to fuselage "pod" in preparation for a flight

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Gliding may well be called a poor man's recreation, lending itself best to cooperative effort and the sharing of costs. This explains the glider club idea and the fact that ninety per cent of the sport's devotees learned to fly in, and are affiliated with, clubs.

A modern, well-engineered utility glider or sailplane will cost \$250 to \$3,000, with \$600 a logical price. For transporting the dismantled glider to soaring sites and retrieving it after cross-country flights should be added, by way of necessary equipment, a two-wheeled trailer, costing about \$100. It may be taken for granted that one club member possesses an automobile to tow the trailer and.

annually at Elmira, N. Y., with dozens of gliders and hundreds of pilots competing. More than 600 pilots have been trained by one large glider club alone without death or injury. This record compares favorably with other sports, particularly when you remember that until recently most sailplanes have been of back-yard construction. There are more than 900 glider clubs and associations in the U.S., with memberships running anywhere from five to 150, and all active pilots flying hundreds of hours weekly.



Top, pilot in open cockpit plane at soaring meet. Center, instrument panel of Bawlus craft. Bottom, plane loaded on trailer

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later, to launch the glider by means of a rope or cable. Many clubs have power winches mounted on old trucks and utilize the engine power to wind up launching lines on a drum. Such an installation should not exceed fifty dollars in cost. Allot another fifty dollars for towlines and incidental paraphernalia and the total club investment would be about \$800. Divide this cost among ten members,

spread over a four-year period, and you arrive at twenty dollars per year per man.

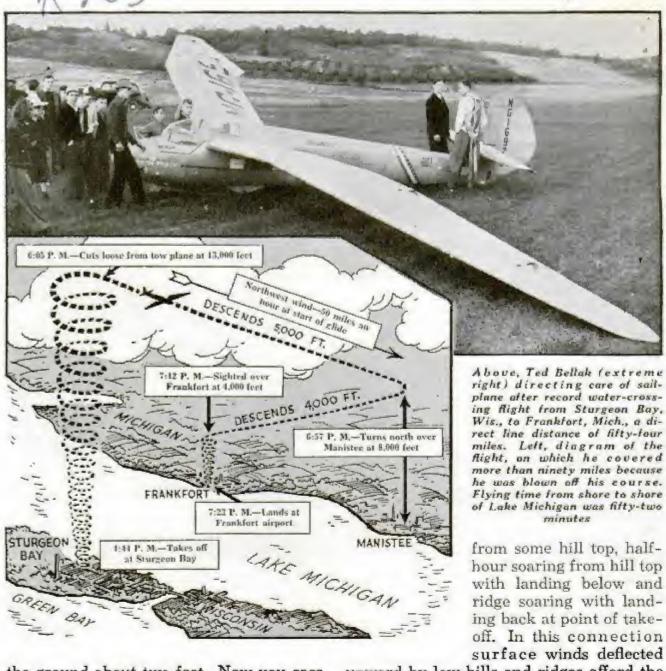
Let us assume that you have joined a club and are ready to begin your instruction. Your group of five to ten members proceeds to the best local spot and you begin with ground skims. Using a 200-foot cable, the towcar rolls you along the ground just fast enough to keep the wings from dragging. You manipulate the steering wheel or "dep" control to learn lateral balance on your single-wheeled landing gear and how even keel is managed with the ailerons. After an hour of this the towcar speeds up until the glider leaves



Top, unloading glider from tubular framework trailer. Center, power winch, with radiophone operator waiting for takeoff signal. Bottom, soaring club members at week-end meet

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assn. Southern Palifolni



the ground about two feet. Now you ease the wheel forward and back to learn the up-and-down action of the elevators.

Another day you continue your training with straight tows at progressive altitudes of ten, twenty, fifty and 100 feet. At twenty feet you have mastered the art of setting the glider down with ease and some precision. At fifty feet you are permitted to drop your towline and come down by yourself. Then follow more straight tows at perhaps 100 feet where you practice gentle "S" turns. Next comes the ninetydegree turn free of the line, then 180 and 360-degree turns, all under the eye of your instructor.

Further training, during which you are towed to 500 feet, includes slips or fishtailing, precision landings into the wind, downwind and in cross-winds, a rectangular flight path, Figure-8 flight path, a glide 12 13 . DOSE LEN E

upward by low hills and ridges afford the glider pilot his steadiest and most dependable source of lift. This is called slope or ridge soaring.

By the time you are ready for graduation to flights in which you are towed by airplane you have qualified for distance, duration and altitude experience in thermals and must learn a new technique.

There are today half a dozen schools where glider instruction is available. Glider flying, construction and ground schooling also are taught in more than thirty universities and colleges. If eligible under the government's pilot-training program, you may receive instruction from Uncle Sam himself. Finally, the National Youth Administration has taken up gliding and makes instruction available to a few handpicked students.

(Continued to page 143A)

# 'Eye' in Brass Gun Clocks Speedboat Record

Successful photo-electric clocking of the speed of racing boats has been accomplished with a portable timer which records the time to 1/1,000 of a second. Light reflection from spray and waves doomed previous efforts to failure, but the new equipment conquers this problem of "light spill." An "electric eye" is housed at the end of an eleven-foot brass tube fitted with photographic lenses so it can be focused on an automobile spotlight lashed with its battery to the starting and finishing line flags. As the boat crosses the starting line and interrupts the light beam, a relay sets the timing clock's hands in motion instantly; then it acts again to stop the hands when the boat cuts past the finish line. A "second" hand sweeps around the dial once each second, and the "minute" hand rotates once a minute, a third one recording successive minutes on the dial. Power to run the clock comes from a sixvolt storage battery working through a converter which in turn uses a crystal oscillator to change the direct current to sixty-cycle, 110-volt alternating current. The clock motor runs constantly, and an over-riding clutch on the main shaft in conjunction with an electromagnetic solenoid operates to start the hands moving. Two push buttons control the unit, one starting the mechanism to catch the beginning of a speed run and the other starting it for the finish.

Top, timing an outboard speed trial. Bottom, brass tube resting on carrying case of clock contains "electric eye"





### Manganese-Copper Alloy Is Silent as Rubber and as Strong as Steel

Drop a piece of steel or brass on the floor and you hear a metallic clang. Drop a piece of the new manganese-copper heat-treated alloy and it hits the floor with a dull thump like a hard rubber ball. Dr. R. S. Dean, chief metallurgical engineer of the U. S. Bureau of Mines, said this alloy has the strength of steel yet "dampens or absorbs vibrations like rubber." Rubber, of

course, cannot be used in tension, rubber axles or drive shafts being out of the question. But Dr. Dean suggested that the silent manganese alloy offers possibilities of chatterless spring suspensions, noiseless gears, mufflers for many industrial noises.

There are 180 different tribes represented among the American Indians living today.

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# Explorers 'See Antarctica' by Plane and Sled

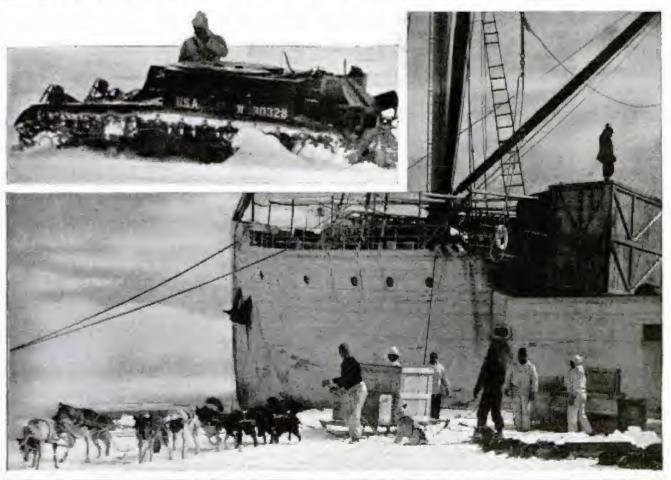




Earlier expeditions led by Rear Admiral Richard E. Byrd established bases and prepared the way for the present U. S. Antarctic expedition, purpose of which is to conduct thorough and extensive survey of the region. Airplanes will be used as heretofore, but dog sleds must be depended on for much of the actual survey work on the ground. Center picture shows the big Condor plane being unloaded from the supply ship at the West Base; below, the twin-motored biplane gets bach its wings and tail

POPULAR MECHANICS

Little America Settles Down for Long Winter



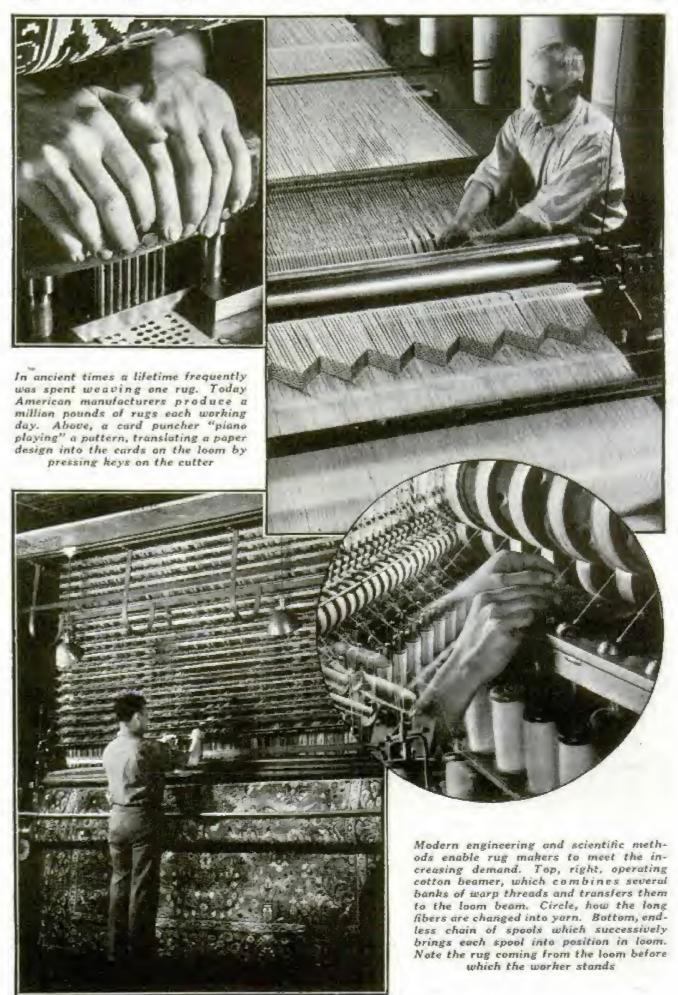


Moving Day at Little America is a colossal task. When the two supply ships anchored at the edge of the ice they had to unload supplies for the long winter, and the huge Diesel "snow cruiser" (bottom) was only saved from disaster by quick action of its driver when it rolled ashore, full power on its giant wheels taking it safely in from the crumbling ice at the edge. At top, a tank finds itself in an embarrassing spot in a snow-bank crevasse. Centerpictures show dog teams sledging supplies in from the "Bear" and "North Star." When the snow cruiser goes exploring it is to carry a biplane on its back for liaison and survey flights

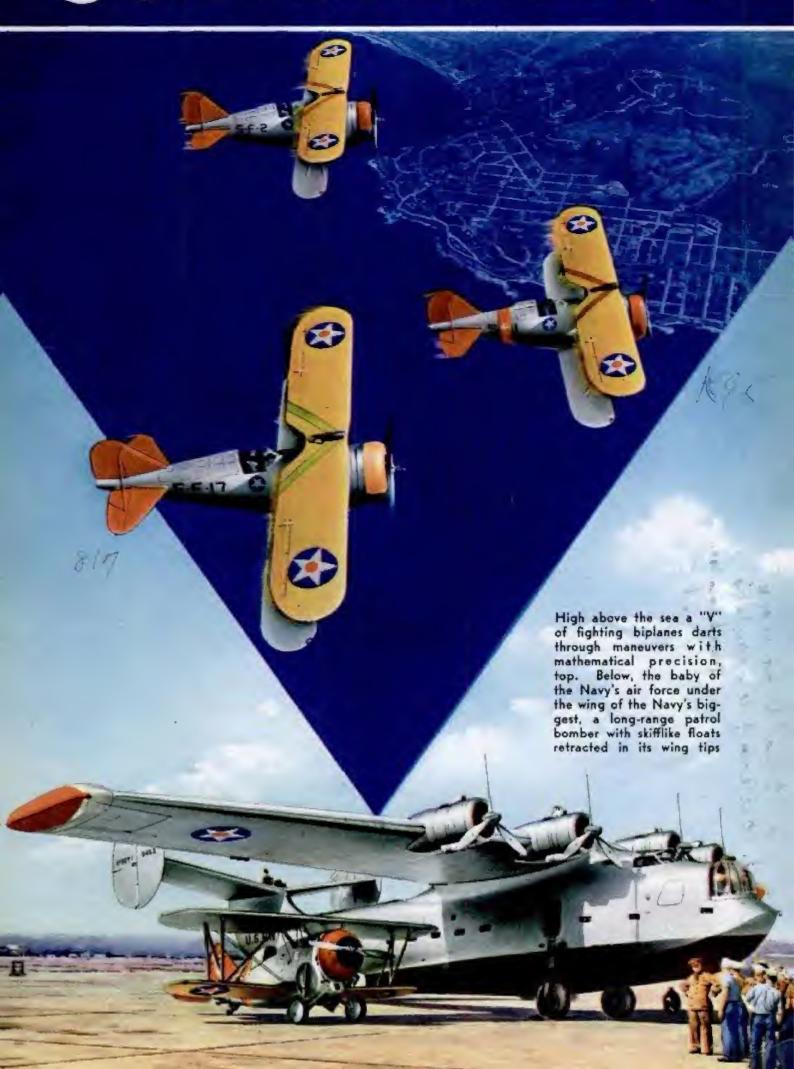
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# Speeding Up the Ancient Art of Rug Making



# OUR FLYING NAVY





PART I

By J. B. HANCOCK

OU'RE clutching the stick of a training plane wobbling through what looks like a serene sky but feels like a condemned roller coaster. Down below there is the blue but terrifying ocean, at its edge the Pensacola air school where you hope some day to win the coveted Wings of the Navy.

Instructions pour into your gosport helmet in a confusing fog. No chance to ask questions. Searcely time to keep up with commands.

"Bring the nose up!"

Your mind flashes back to the text book, bounces swiftly back to business as directions come from the instructor. You maneuver the stick with a tense fist, find the left wing dropping, finally coax it level again. This way to the coveted Navy Wings! A student pilot, above, receives pats of encouragement and good-natured banter as he prepares for his first flight. Below, aviation cadets "gas up" an N3N-I seaplane for a training flight at Pensacola school



"Try it again." Over and over, for forty minutes, and your first flight ends. You can grin now. It wasn't so easy as it looked from below when you saw that flight of trim, twin-motored seaplanes roaring overhead in perfect geometrical formation; but it was a thrill, the first on the road to that ultimate in thrills, the receiving of Navy Wings. You're on the way to becoming one of the 8,000-odd young fellows who in a little more than a quarter century have proved themselves mentally, physically and psychologically sound enough to complete the flight training course at the U. S. Naval Air Station. Only volunteers are enrolled at Pensacola. Either you're an officer, graduated from Annapolis, with two years at sea behind you; or you're an enlisted man in the Navy with specialized rating as radioman, machinist, etc.; or an aviation cadet, a civilian graduate of an accredited college, or with two years of academic work plus other training equal to make up the deficiency. And you're between twenty and twenty-eight years old, and unmarried. Ground school-which takes up Torpedo bombers form a stepladder in the sky at upper right; in circle, the class in rigging at Pensacola. Below, future navy fliers learn about communications in the radio laboratory, and, at right, an SBC-3 gets a change of engines with student help



Theory and practice run parallel at the naval air school. Along with ground school and its textbook study of aircraft construction, aerodynamics, engines and radio, the young pilots immediately get actual flight training. At top, a class studies theory of flight; below, a navy flier in an F2F-1 biplane with wheels retracted cruises over rough terrain on special training mission

Out steps the check pilot,

get the feel of the plane, grins encouragement and you're taxiing across the bay. You do some of your worst flying under the strain, but the

check pilot-familiar with the

disease of "checkitis"—says a

few calming words and you

actually make a creditable

landing.



calling: "All right, take her around the course." You're on your own! But, up in the air, you find yourself so busy you have to postpone a feeling of thrill until you're down again. Twenty minutes later your record is marked "Completed solo

flight satisfactorily."

The big hurdle is behind! Following time-honored custom, classmates toss you bodily into Pensacola bay. It's the fate of every student who completes his first solo. whether he's an enlisted man or a four-striper. The plunge seems to loosen every strained muscle, every kink of the brain. From here on no problem can be too hard to lick.

But the next few weeks you alternate between triumph and despondency. When you stop to analyze, you know you're getting better, but your preconceived

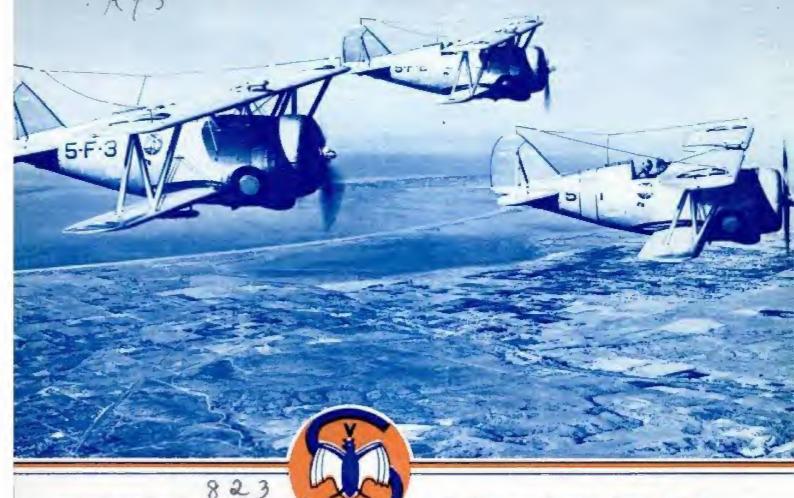
Above, land training planes "on the line" ready for class at Corry Field, Pensacola, Fla. Below, an instructor gives an aviation cadet an "upcheck." It's up to the student to put the two-seat trainer through its paces, but the check pilot is there to shout orders into the gosport helmet if needed





ideas of flying are dissipat-Maybe it's just the ing. navy method that calls for perfection; but why does a fellow have to practice for five hours what it took the instructor only an hour to show over and over? Smooth landings and takeoffs, spiraling to a buoy with a cut gun, fishtailing if you overshoot a bit, a kick at the rudder until you discover it's automatic and the old trainer is obeying your slightest commands. For forty-five hours you explore the air over Pensacola bay, then the final check of Squadron One, the "Primary Seaplane" class. Only a little nervous now, even when the instructor cuts the throttle on the takeoff to see if you can get back on the water safely. Wingovers, flipper turns, spins, precision landings go well, but you're a bit ragged on 822

Wheeling over the coast, at top, are three TBDS planes. At left, center, a squad of cadets receives last-minute instructions before taking off; bottom, VCS-6 seaplanes get formation flying down to perfection over the ocean. Target practice on the pistol range, right, is an essential sideline at the school for navy fliers



spirals and beach approach.
After a second check you're
told to report to Squadron
Two at Corry Field for
primary landplane training.

You're back at the beginning again; takeoffs, landings, but under different conditions. Corry Field's 500 acres look like a postage stamp from any altitude, with hangars, flagpoles, trees crowding in on every side. But soon the cut gun loses its horror, for you're learning to judge quickly whether you can glide in or push her over before the instructor has to take hold. Five hours are devoted to "shooting the circle," then the check comes so soon you don't do too well. The

circle seems to slide out from under you, or pick itself up and rush ahead.
Your instructor reports
this to the Squadron Flight
Board and you're given two more hours to make good. You get nice and tense over that.

"Sure you can fly," says the check pilot. "You're just not letting yourself."

Top, three fighting planes in "V" formation. At right, cadets gather at the Operations Board to learn their afternoon flying assignments

In time you do calm down, and at the end of the extra hours you move on to Squadron Three-"Service Landplanes." By now you have a fairly good knowledge of aerobatics and a taste of formation and night flying. It's been mostly fundamentals, with emphasis on prompt and correct decisions in emergencies. As an introduction to Squadron Three you're advised to digest a mass of printed matter about fatal spins at low altitude, fleet instructions, maneuvering restrictions on service planes. Then the instructor shows you that awesome cockpit: fuel gauges, bomb releases, shutters, stabilizers, brake ped-





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A sea-going patrol bomber flies past the U. S. S. "Concord," top. Below, in line formation, are a trio of advanced trainers, low-wing monoplanes

als. And furthermore, he says, plenty more instruments and dials are missing from this trainer because you won't need them at present. It's getting fairly obvious now that flying is tougher than bicycling.

There's no time out for thinking discouraging thoughts. The plane taxies forward, earth sinks away, orders bang at you

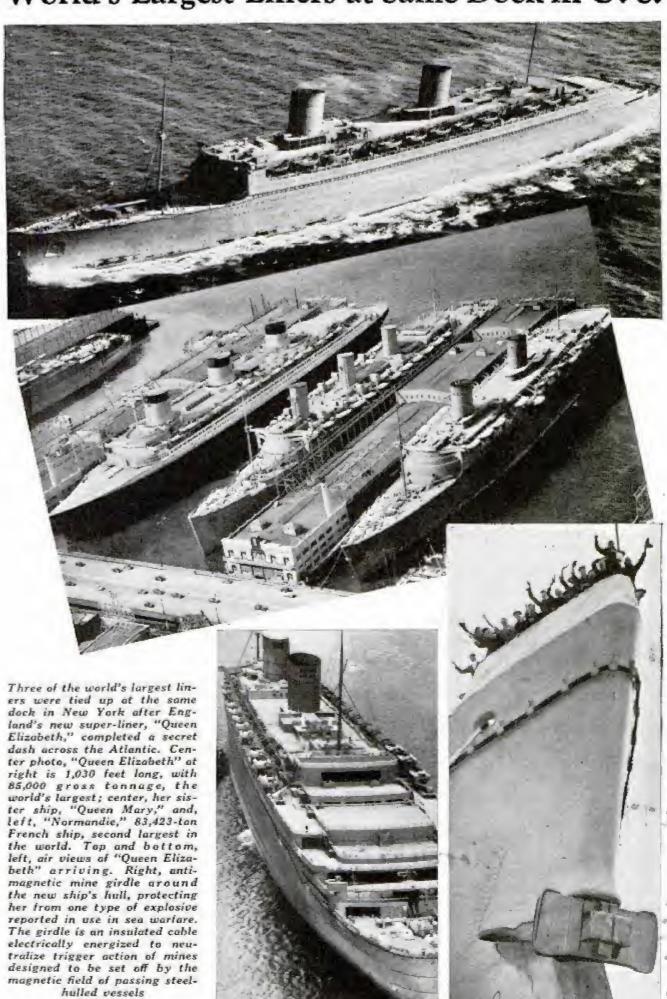
through the gosport.

"Roll the stabilizers forward!" Just in time the nose comes down. For days the plane insists on floating past the landing circle or squashes too quickly. But at length you learn to guide and not push this sensitive creature. You solo, and come home very creditably. For hours you practice coordination with other pilots, fire free machine guns, try aerial radio communication by code and voice. As you romp home from an ex-

(Continued on page 128A)

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# World's Largest Liners at Same Dock in U.S.



JUNE, 1940

# Superbomber Could Fly to Europe and Back

Seventy-ton bomber was nearly completed before the public learned of its construction in a secret section of Douglas plant. At left one of its four motors is being installed; below, its skyscroping tail-five stories high-gives an idea of its immensity

Kept "under wraps" during many months of secret development, the world's mightiest bombing plane has been built in the Douglas aircraft plant at Santa-Monica, Calif., for the U.S. Army. Weighing seventy tons loaded-more than twice the size of the army's thirty-ton "flying for-

tresses"—this superbomber with its 6,000mile range should be able to fly to Europe and back with a twenty-eight-ton load of bombs. Even as the big plane was prepared for test flights, many of its details were kept secret, and visitors have been barred for more than a year from the section of the factory where its construction was progressing. But it had to be moved outdoors to have its wings attached, and some of its dimensions were made public. Its wing spread is 210 feet, its four engines develop 6,000 horsepower, and although it is half again as large as the famous old

LU German 112-passenger "DO-X," it is built to carry a war crew of ten men. The heated and ventilated sleeping quarters, radio room and navigator's compartment have been soundproofed. The three-blade propellers, sixteen feet in diameter, are of the constant-speed type. As to its speed, the war department only stated that it would be "more than 200 miles an hour." In general outline the million-dollar B-19 resembles the big overland sky liners used by the commercial air lines, which, however, it dwarfs by comparison. Its retractable landing gear is of the tricycle type.

# Atom 'Meter' Counts Explosions in a Millionth of Second

So acute is the action of an atom counting device, built at Indiana university that it can observe and record atomic explosions and the rays that follow one after another, within the infinitesimally short period of a millionth of a second. Its purpose is to penetrate the last barrier to the secret structure of all matter-the nucleus

of an atom. When an atom explodes, it blows off a particle of matter, like an electron, and emits a flash of energy known as a gamma ray. The gamma rays are similar to X-rays or radium rays. Usually the explosions are only a few billionths of a second apart, but the recorder separates and tabulates them accurately by electricity.

POPULAR MECHANICS

## Experimental Car Hints of Tomorrow's Auto



Advanced ideas of design, many of which eventually may become standard, are incorporated in an experimental automobile built recently by Buick engineers. Emphasizing the modern tendency to reduce over-all height, the car has unusually small wheels fitted with thirteen-inch tires, placing the body and chassis so low to the ground that it is virtually impossible to overturn the car. Wheel, tread is standard but body and. chassis are of unusual width. To provide maximum braking efficiency with smaller wheels and brake drums, special airplane brakes of the sirocco air-cooled type are used. Among the advanced features are: heavy windstream bar bumpers, bumper guards and license plate bracket in a well-designed unit; front fenders housing retractile headlamps concealed behind "doors" operated by electric motors controlled from the instrument panel;

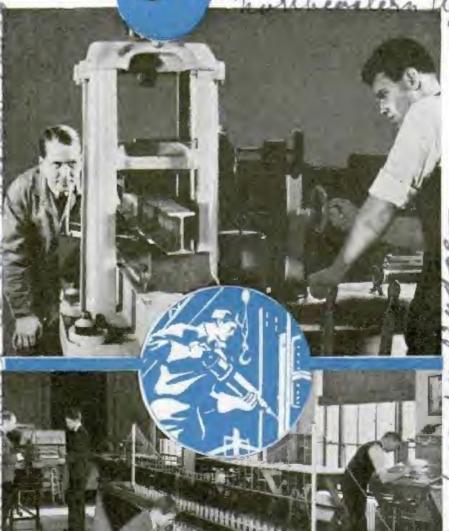
inbuilt running boards, concealed by the ment. The top of the car is raised and lowcar doors and equipped with safety step ered automatically, by pressing a button, and scuff plates; door windows raised and It fits into the deck immediately behind the lowered by electric regulators controlled, driver, the deck cover automatically open-from the instrument panel, and flush-set ling as the top comes down and then closing door handles that pop out at slight pres-lafter the top is stored. sure, affording a firm grip. A "machine" gun sight" radiator ornament surmounts Brooms colored to match the kitchen



Top and center, two views of ultra-streamline auto. Bottom, raising top at the touch of a button

the hood. The rear deck has a cover of the scheme — blue, red or green — have just alligator type similar in design and opera- been introduced by an eastern manufaction to the hood. Rear deck and hood locks turer, the dye serving also as a protective are operated from the driver's compart— coating that makes the straw wear longer.

JOB HUNTING



where no jobs grew before. Professors and students are using their
equipment to better old
materials and to discover
new inventions. These are
turned over to industries
which put them on the
market and hire new employes to make them.

Large numbers of students actually are making their own future jobs in the laboratories and experimental stations, for as soon as they are graduated, they are snapped up by factories to put in practice the ideas they originated in school.

This is the old depression "made-work" idea gone scientific. Such jobs are not temporary make-

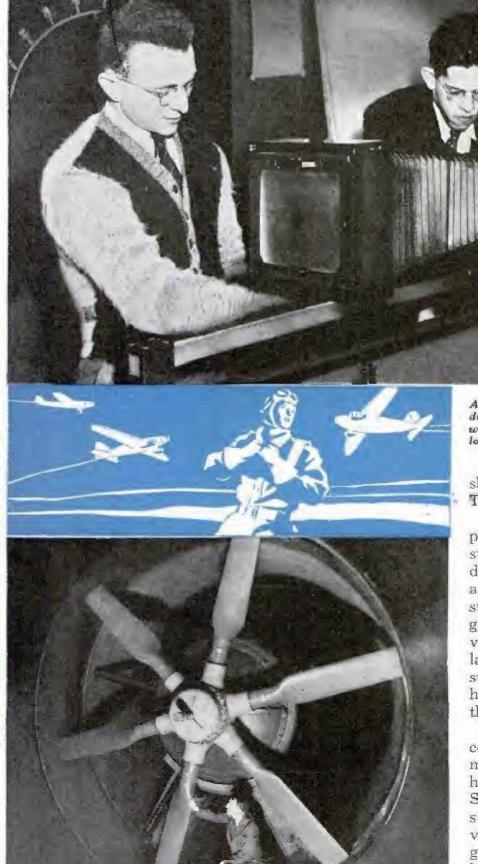
Top, research students test strength of I-beam in effort to develop better construction materials. To study bridge building, students erected model of a Detroit bridge, center. Below, tollege scientist and student work on project to make plastics from milk

A LL sorts of strange schemes were tried during the depression to take men off the relief rolls and put them back on private-industry payrolls. But perhaps the most unique employment-idea now is being carried out on a large scale in New England.

They are going job hunting in test tubes. Under the leadership of Dr. Karl T. Compton, President of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, leading scientists and industrialists have organized the laboratories in colleges, manufacturing plants, and independent research agencies in a program which creates new products and thus not only restores jobless men to steady work but also makes new jobs

V. Servere ark





Above, hair looks like baseball but under metaloscope, metal research tool with 2,000-diameter magnification. Below, thirteen-loot propeller creates 400-mile winds in tupnel

shifts. They are permanent, They yield real salaries.

A Harvard student in the physics laboratory had been studying polarized light. One day absent-mindedly he drew a lead pencil across some stretched rubber. In a flash it gave him an idea which he developed into a new form of polarized glass, which eliminates sun and headlight glare. Now he runs a big factory making the new product.

A Northeastern student discovered a new scientific way of making pies. A big bakery hired him as superintendent. A South Sudbury student did some research work in low-velocity air flow. A fan factory gave him a job to manufacture his product. A Massachusetts Institute of Technology professor with the aid of students de-





covered a method of controlling air streams, was given charge of carburetor development in an aircraft factory.

The Massachusetts state college has developed numerous uses for waste farm products. A young scientist in Newtonville is using skim milk for traffic-line paint. Wentworth Institute students made jobs for themselves in the airplane industry through research on gyroscopes. Researchers at Rhode Island state college are making new plastics from milk. University of Maine boys have extracted oil from balsam needles.

Universities are not the only places where jobs are being created. New England alone has 1,200 agencies handling industrial research

problems ranging

veloped an "invisible film" to spread over glass. It made new jobs in the camera lens, window-pane, watch-crystal and glass industry. Students at Norwich

burning waste wood. It is far hoter than the old-fashioned range. A college boy at Worcester Polytechnic Institute tackled a lighting problem which had baffled experienced engineers. He

University produced a new type stove that burns gas given off by

invented a tiny glass glow tube which insures prompt starting of the new fluorescent lamps. Another did such valuable research work in shoe machinery that one of the biggest manufacturers in America set him to work after he finished college. One of his classmates developed a lubricating oil and was hired by a big petroleum corporation; another, who dispersions the starting of the new fluorescent lamps. Another did such that the starting of the new fluorescent lamps. Another did such valuable research work in shoe machinery in the starting of the new fluorescent lamps. Another did such valuable research work in shoe machinery in the starting of the new fluorescent lamps. Another did such valuable research work in shoe machinery that one of the biggest manufacturers in America set him to work after he finished college. One of his classmates developed a lubricating oil and was hired by a big petroleum corporation; another, who dispersions are started by the starting of the started by the star

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from aerodynamics to yeast chemistry. Over 300 private research firms have created new products and new jobs in the fields of rubber, paper, petroleum, pharmaceuticals, chemicals, paint, glass, rayon, plastics, soap, food, casein products, ink, paper, and electrical equipment.

Almost every big manufacturer main-

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POPULAR MECHANICS

tains a research department. A chemical plant discovered a chemical oil that is replacing Spanish olive oil as a lubricant for 3,000,000-Pound Squeeze textile spinning. It developed a substance which dropped into dirty streams and ponds, makes them as clear as a glass of ice water. Another firm made a wood plastic with a basket weave that is making new jobs in the aircraft, cigarette holder, and coffin industry. An inventor developed a "cold light" lamp in which a twenty-fivewatt fluorescent bulb gives a light equal to that of a conventional 500-watt lamp.

Researchers devised a metering pump. about the size of a quarter, which forces tiny jets of "man-made silk" fluid to spinnerets. These spin threads half as thick as a human hair. Accurate to 25/1,000,000 of an inch, these pumps are essential to the rayon and similar textile industries.

These new ideas not only provided new jobs in the factories but brought new money to old salesmen and gave a new line of goods to new salesmen. It was "Yankee ingenuity," the inventive genius of such men as Elias Howe, Eli Whitney, Alexander Graham Bell, Charles Goodyear, Samuel F. B. Morse, and scores of others, which originally gave New England its industrial supremacy and literally created millions of jobs.

The depression and other economic conditions forced New England history to repeat itself and today the section has gone in strong for Yankee ingenuity—modernized, scientific, and streamlined. It is inventing its way out of economic difficulties. It is making gold in its laboratories by making new things which will bring money across the counter.

Although the northeastern states were filled with public and private research facilities during the past score of years, the little manufactured either didn't know about his opportunities or was unable to utilize the scientific knowledge of his bigger competitors. Yet three-quarters of all New England manufacturing is done in plants with the average payroll of fifty workers. The average American factory hires forty-three workers.

Now President Compton's scientists and industrialists are teaming to give a break to the little fellow as well as the big corporation. Public and private research institutions cooperate for the mutual benefit of the region. They are swapping ideas,

(Continued to page 152A)

## Compression 'Bomb' Exerts



"Cascade bomb" able to produce 6,000,000 pounds pressure gives clue to conditions deep in the earth

To duplicate pressures existing deep in the earth, scientists at Carnegie Institution. in Washington have constructed a "cascade bomb" they believe to be capable of developing 6,000,000 pounds to the square inch. This is the approximate pressure 745 miles within the earth. The first experiments with the apparatus, however, were stopped. at 3,000,000 pounds, or 200,000 atmospheres —half of its potential capacity—because the pressure gauge was not calibrated beyond that point. Nevertheless, it squeezed table salt so tightly its volume was decreased by one-fifth. Further research is expected to reveal other secrets of what' happens to matter's properties under the earth's terrific crushing forces. The cascade bomb is a pair of pressure chambers, one inclosed within the other. The inner chamber is suspended in a kerosene-like oil under a pressure of 255,000 pounds. This pressure appears to strengthen its steel walls and permit it to withstand extreme interior pressures created by a tiny plunger.

JUNE, 1940

# Powerful 'Liquid' Bomb Is Fire and Shockproof



Huddling behind a barricade of sand-bags, spectators recently witnessed tests of a liquid oxygen-and-carbon bomb developed by Lester P. Barlow and his colleague, B. G. Holderer. To show that fire and shock will not explode them, bombs were burned, rifle bullets were fired into them, they were shot out of a trench mortar 500 feet into the air, and shot against a steel plate so they ricocheted 300 feet. But when an eight-ounce charge was detonated by a blasting cap under logs, it reduced them to matchwood and hurled fragments high in the air. According to Mr. Barlow, the explosive, which is made by soaking carbon

and other secret substances in liquid oxygen, does not deteriorate until about thirty hours after saturation. While liquid oxygen explosives have been used for many years, the inventor claims his bomb has a great killing potency, which is said to result from unusually powerful pressure waves. Another advantage claimed is low cost of manufacture, said to be four and one-half cents a pound.

Cleveland Lightra

## Ball Parks' Floodlamps Could Light Big City

To turn night into day for night baseball, three additional major league fields have been floodlighted this year. To make reflectors for the 2,464 new lighting units, 10,000 pounds of aluminum were spun and processed at the Westinghouse plant - enough to form a metal covering one-sixteenth inch thick over nearly seven acres. Visibility in these parks —Sportsman's field at St. Louis, New York's Polo Grounds and Pittsburgh's Forbes field—will be 700



Machinist is mirrored in highly polished surface of aluminum reflector disk, above, being spun in lathe. Left, floodlamps ready to be installed at ball parks

times better than in the brightest moonlight, and fans in all parts of the parks can see the ball in play. When each reflector is fitted with its 1,500-watt lamp, the combined output will approximate 36,960,000 watts, enough to light all the homes in a city of more than 500,000 population. If the light from all these lamps could be concentrated into one beam it would total 554,-000,000 candlepower.

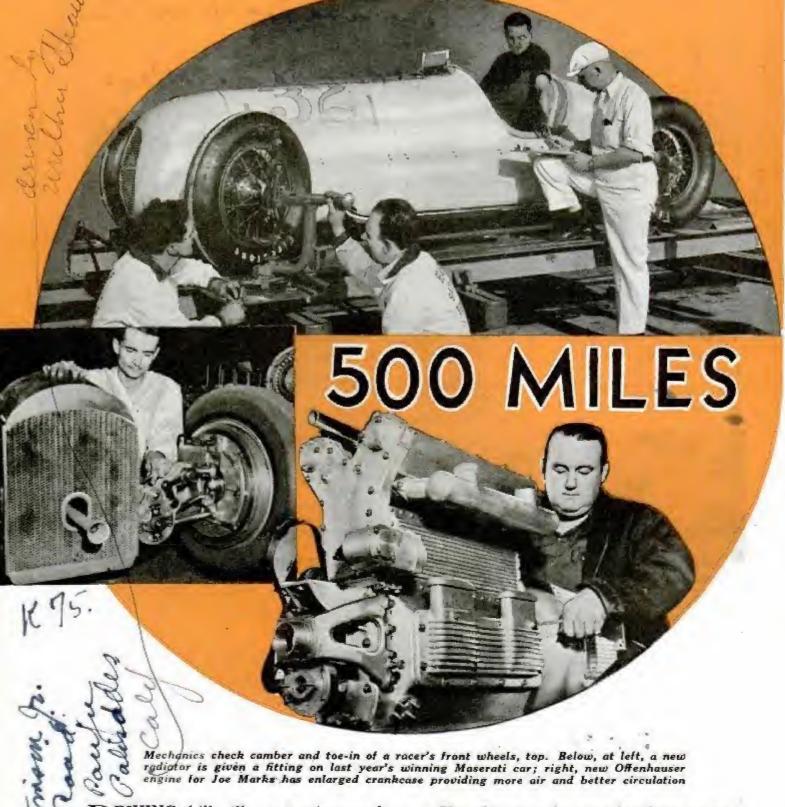
### Synchronized Auto Map Unrolls as Speedometer Turns

Advance information of the road ahead is revealed by a scrolled road map that unreels as the automobile travels, being synchronized through a speedometer attachment. As it rolls past a "window," the map indicates the approach of road markers, landmarks and points of interest, also forewarning the driver of hazards such as sharp curves, dangerous crossings and steep hills before the usual warning signs are encountered. Distances are marked clearly in miles, and it is easy to reckon the mileage between two points. The tape travels an inch per mile, and can be stopped temporarily if detours are made from the charted course. rovel brund



Highway map travels past window, keeping pace with progress of car by speedometer attachment

JUNE, 1940



DRIVING skill will count as it never has before when America's thirty-three leading drivers roar past the starting line in the annual 500-mile race at Indianapolis on Memorial Day.

Last year's race, in a way, was simply a mechanical try-out for the race this spring. The same rules apply and with a few exceptions the same cars and drivers will compete. Weak oil lines, faulty radiators, and other "bugs" that were revealed in the last race have been remedied. Fewer cars should have to make pit stops except to pick up supplies. Sixteen cars failed to finish last year because of mechanical trouble.

Year by year the pace has been getting faster. Barring accidents that will slow the race down, the winner this year must average close to 120 miles per hour to win. He will really have to drive several miles per hour faster than that because the average speed includes time out for pit stops. Competing cars are powered with four, six, eight, and sixteen-cylinder engines.

Drivers reckon that it costs nearly a lap to make a pit stop and because of this the four-cylinder cars have an advantage the others don't enjoy. The four-cylinder cars run from ten to thirteen miles on a gallon of fuel, the eights get seven or eight miles



Top, left, crankcase and crankshaft of eight-cylinder engine. Right, Italian-built Maserati driven by Wilbur Shaw burns alcohol-base fuel and is supercharged. Below, an early tune-up of rear-engine, four-wheel-drive car with Harry Miller, owner (left), George Bailey, driver (right)

built last winter. Thorne's team of drivers and mechanics travels in

a special fourteen-ton

capacity truck and trail-



Thousand and one parts of sixteen-cylinder engine, top, are disassembled before race for inspection and rebubbitting of bearings. Center, assembling the Maserati racer. Joe Thorne hauls three race cars in trailer (bottom), loads pleasure car and light truck on roof

tor, with air-cooling tubes running through the tank that pull the oil temperature down twenty degrees or more. The car is equipped with hand-operated mechanical brakes on all four wheels and foot-operated hydraulics on the rear wheels. It will be driven by Tommy Hinnershlitz.

The second car of the Marks team is a sleek racer powered with a 255-cubic-inch Offenhauser. It will be driven by Duke Nalon of Chicago. Both of Marks' entries are owned by "Grandma" Falcioni of Gary, a sixty-two-year old feminine racing fan who has watched her own cars compete since 1932.

Wilbur Shaw, Chet Miller, and Ted Horn are the drivers in the

Mike Boyle team. Shaw's car, the 1939 winner, is being thoroughly checked over and inspected in Indianapolis. It is a Maserati machine built in Italy. All parts required for it had to be imported from the Italian manufacturer or specially made in this country to metric dimensions. Among the changes incorporated in Shaw's car for this year are an improved radiator, installation of American-made hydraulic shock absorbers on the rear, and additional ventilation for the driver's cockpit. The Maserati, being supercharged, burns an alcohol base fuel, and experiments to improve the fuel mixture for better performance are under way. Horn's front-drive, fourth-place

winner in 1939, has also received a number of changes directed to-

(Continued to page 139A)



drive shaft and another tank over rear wheels, keeping center of gravity low. Left, Louis Tomei on a trial spin. Below, threestory stand built by spectators at Indianapolis race

### High-Speed Flash "Freezes" Swimmers in Air



One of the fastest pictures ever taken of a sports event, this view stopping four swimmers in air at start of a race was snapped at 1/100,000 second by the ultra-speed flash process

At the tense moment of their flying start in a free-style race four swimmers were "frozen" in the air by the high-speed camera. The picture was taken at an exposure of 1/100,000 of a second, using the ultra-fast flash process developed by Prof. Harold E. Edgerton at Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

#### Boat Engine Built of Old Auto Parts for Less than \$100

Lacking the means to buy a suitable engine for their thirteen-and-one-half foot

Inspecting speedboat engine, with two opposed cylinders, that was built from used automobile parts at a cost less than \$100

speedboat, two enthusiastic racers had to depend on their talents to design and build

a twin-cylinder opposed inboard engine at a cost of 100 dollars, using as many old auto parts as possible. Taking eight months to complete, the engine measures eighteen inches from tip to tip of the crankshaft, weighs 200 pounds, is capable of winding up 3,500 to 4,000 revolutions, develops fifty horsepower and drives the craft at more than forty miles an hour. Its small size takes up little more room than an outboard, and placing it farther forward makes the boat trim better. Cylinders, with walls made of iron pipe cut vertically and welded to size, have a three and seven-eighths inch bore and a four and three-eighths inch stroke, the pistons being a heavyduty type with four rings. Large

valves with seven-sixteenths inch lift, added to high compression heads of cast aluminum, produce a hopped-up engine which will do everything required of it for small boat racing. The crankshaft, specially machined to fit, is from an old automobile engine, and the crankcase is made of sheet steel with welded seams. The engine is lubricated by a full-pressure oiling system and cooled by a water jacket, with a supplementary finned water line through the crankcase for additional cooling. A small centrifugal pump takes water from . outside the boat. The only new parts which had to be purchased include carburetor, pistons, oil gauge and distributor.

#### Pipe Cleaner Artist Models Carriage Like Cinderella's

Among the many novelties made from pipe cleaners is a miniature vehicle that its builder calls Cinderella's carriage. This pipe-cleaner "sculpture" was exhibited at a recent hobby show in New York. Furniture Hangs from Walls of an "Upside-Down Room"



It doesn't seem right, but all is in order if you get the right slant. Here a model is being "seated" in topsy-turvy room at architectural show

Startling feature of an architectural show recently was an "Upside-Down Room." Everything was topsy-turvy—although, if you could stand horizontally, things were in perfect order and taste. The furniture was hung from walls

and ceiling, a model supposedly seated on a lounge was actually on her—or its—back and a spiral of wire projecting horizontally from an ash tray represented up-coiling smoke from a cigarette.

Radio engineers say a single television antenna could serve the entire United States if it were located in Nebraska and its top were 300 miles above the ground.



Nothing but pipe cleaners were used in constructing this "open work" model of Cinderella's carriage recently displayed at hobbyists' exhibit

JUNE, 1940

year alintos

## TAPPING NEPTUNE'S



Large marine specimens are captured with harpoon gun, left; old-style rifle is used to carry heavier powder charge. Above, meter for measuring velocity and direction of ocean currents helps predict location of fish. Below, landing a load of help

THERE are \$60,000,000 worth of iodine and 250,000 tons of bromine, among other ingredients, in a cubic mile of ocean water. All known elements including gold and radium are found in the sea. Yet minerals are only part of its wealth.

"The world's fisheries alone earn more than thirty billion dollars per year and employ nearly twenty million people," declares Dr. Claude E. ZoBell of Scripps Institution of Oceanography at La Jolla, Calif. "If the vast natural resources of the oceans were fully exploited many more millions of people could be employed. New uses for marine products and new ways to extract them economically from the ocean are being studied with this in mind."

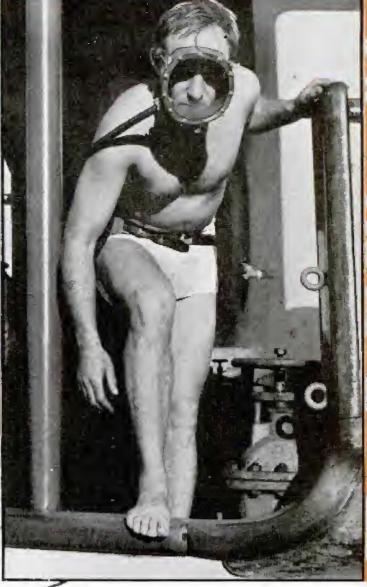
Already mankind is using an imposing list of sea products. Millions of tons of salt are extracted annually, and thousands of tons of bromine are recovered to be used as an anti-knock ingredient in motor fuels. Iodine and potash are taken from kelp instead of directly from the water because the seaweed stores these minerals in high concentrations.

"The greatest wealth of the sea is not in its mineral resources,

## TREASURE CHEST



Kelp leaves, held to stem by bulbs or "floaters," above, cling together at tips until strong enough to withstand rough sea. Diver, right, carries air bottles on back and weights on belt while studying shallowwater flora and fauna. Below, taking aboard a net full of fish



including the oil deposits below it, but in its natural productivity." Dr. ZoBell says. "Only the top few inches of earth are productive yet photosynthetic plants grow as deep as 800 feet below the ocean's surface. There is never any drought in the sea, even temperatures prevail, and the water is a perfectly balanced nutrient solution in which marine plants flourish.

"In the seas grow 8,000 kinds of marine plants that range from floating microscopic 'ocean pasturage' on which certain kinds of fish feed, to giant kelp that grows as long as 300 feet. Seventy different kinds of marine plants are eaten in Hawaii. We are just beginning to appreciate the value of marine vegetation."

The harvesting of kelp is a major industry that produces nearly half a billion dol-



JUNE, 1940 Calelane

Research

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lars worth of products annually. The plant is used as paper pulp and insulation and, in Europe and Japan, as fertilizer.

One company harvests 100,000 tons of

One company harvests 100,000 tons of kelp a year off the California coast, using sea-going mowing machines to cut and gather the wide fronds that lie on the surface. The high vitamin and mineral content of the dried product makes it a desirable tonic and beneficial as a supplemental food for cattle and poultry. Extracts from kelp are used in breadstuffs, infant foods, in soup, condiments and relishes. Alginic acid extracted from seaweed is an impor-



Top and right, traps for small organisms used by fish as tood, abundance of organisms presaging presence of fish. Bottom, hauling in a big catch

tant ingredient in some malted-milk drinks and improves the quality of lacquers. Agar-agar from certain red algae is used in confections and medicinal preparations.

Excluding insects, four-fifths of all the animals known to man live in the oceans. These include 15,000 species of fish, 40,000 species of mollusks, and nearly as many crustacea. Food, fertilizer, cattle feed, sponges, leather, industrial and medicinal oils, pearls, corals, and whale products are only a few fishery products. Fish is always an important item in the national diet and the consumption of fish usually attains a peak during war years, as during the last World War when meat prices increased. Oil from the livers of many fish has high medicinal value. Shark oil is used in manufacturing soaps and paint, and oil from its liver has recently been found to have desirable medicinal properties, so that the

(Continued to page 130A)

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### Airplane Muffler Has 'Safety Exit' for Backfire

Tests of an airplane exhaust silencer just developed indicate it will cut engine noise by as much as seventy per cent. Tried on the exhaust of a sedan-type private plane, it made the cabin as quietas that of an insulated air liner. A trap door on the silencer opens automatically in case of backfire, rendering the muffler "blowout proof." Besides. this automatic feature. the door also can beopened by the pilot as a cutout. The weight of the entire muffler installation on a plane with fifty to 1,000 horsepower engine ranges from eight to twenty-three pounds.

At top, exhaust silencer is installed on a 200-horsepower cabin plane, which it made as quiet as an insulated air liner. Below, closeup of "safety" door which opens in case of backfire





### Automatic Fire-Fighting 'Bomb' Thrown Like a Grenade



Thrown into a fire, the glass "hand grenade" breaks and releases a cloud of gas that smothers flames but does not injure furnishings or papers

Hurled like a hand grenade into the flames, a glass "bomb" bursts and drenches the fire with liquid that becomes a smothering gas, harmless to rugs, fabrics and papers but a powerful agent against flames. Besides its usefulness as a hand-extinguisher, it has an automatic feature that makes it a "robot" watchman, In its non-rusting metal handle is a coil spring held by a fuse; when heat melts the fuse, the spring throws a projectile against the glass, breaking it and releasing the fluid.

Burn down

JUNE, 1940

## Insects Preserved by 'Freezing' in Solid Blocks

Completing in days or weeks what Mother Nature takes years to accomplish, Dr. Chas. E. Sando, a biochemist, has succeeded in preserving plants, insects and other biological specimens by "freezing" them within solid blocks of transparent

Plexiglas, a crystal-clear acrylic resin. An exhibition of his work, at The Franklin Institute of Philadelphia, includes frogs, butterflies, insects, vegetables, fruits, flowers and grains. They are preserved in their natural forms and colors as faithfully as

nature has preserved insects in amber; some of which have been found to be thousands of years old. Specimens are dehydrated by washing with alcohol or drying in air, then imbedded in the resin while it is in a sirupy state. Part of the process sometimes is carried out under a vacuum in order to prevent formation of air bubbles before the Plexiglas solidifies. The block, which is clearer than glass, transmits colors in their true shades, and the material may be ground to lens shape, if desired, to magnify the inclosed object. This method of mounting specimens is expected eventually to take the place of the familiar rows of jars filled with algohol and formaldehyde now in use in medical and other schools



Above, tarantula spider and bullfrogs preserved in crystal-clear blocks under process many times faster than nature's method of preserving insects in amber. Right, another group of specimens, in disks of same material, that permits close inspection

Synthetic Silk and Wool Fibers Are Made from Soybean

Strong synthetic fibers which can be made to resemble wool or natural silk, depending on production methods, have been manufactured from soybeans by Japanese chemists. Patent claims for a silklike fiber, according to scientists in this country, are novel, but woollike fibers have been created experimentally from soybeans in

erence brooks

America. It is believed probable that the two libers are similar except that in one form they might be straight, without the kink of wool, and having a sheen like silk.

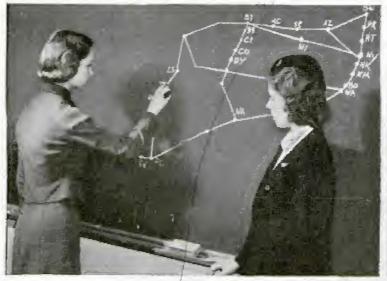
If the ice of the arctic and antarctic regions were melted it would raise the sea level fifty or sixty feet the world around.

POPULAR MECHANICS

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## Air School Trains Stewardess for Job in Sky





To be of service to passengers on a sky liner, the stewardess must know her company's routes and connections thoroughly. Above, a student draws American Airlines' map from memory, symbols indicating cities on routes. At top, right, a group studies Link Trainer, used by student pilots



Thirty registered nurses answer morning roll call, above, at American Airlines training school for stewardesses at LaGuardía field, New York. School lasts seven weeks and students must pass rigid examinations to quality for jobs in the sky. Scene above is in a big hangar where Ameri-can's "Flagships" are groomed for transcontinental flights; here the candidates for stewardess positions are shown the cockpits, told the purposes of controls and instruments and instructed in the principles of flight so that they may answer questions of passengers intelligently. In circle, instructor uses a "mock-up" of buffet service on an air transport to demonstrate routine of serving meals in the sky. At left, an opera-tor in the control tower at New York Municipal Airport explains radio ranges

## X 30 9 3 1 100. Coin-Operated Duckpin Alley Resets Its Pins

A Ja DALL.



#### Double Bicycle for the Family Replaces Car in Wartime

There's no back-seat driving on the double bicycle introduced as a family conveyance in Italy, where gasoline in wartime comes high. Instead of the tandem seats of the old-fashioned "bicycle built for two," the new style has cushioned seats mounted side by side, steering wheels instead of handlebars, and share-the-work pedals.

TExceeding the speed limit was blamed for 36.5 per cent of the fatalities and 22.5 per cent of the injuries in 1939 traffic mishaps.



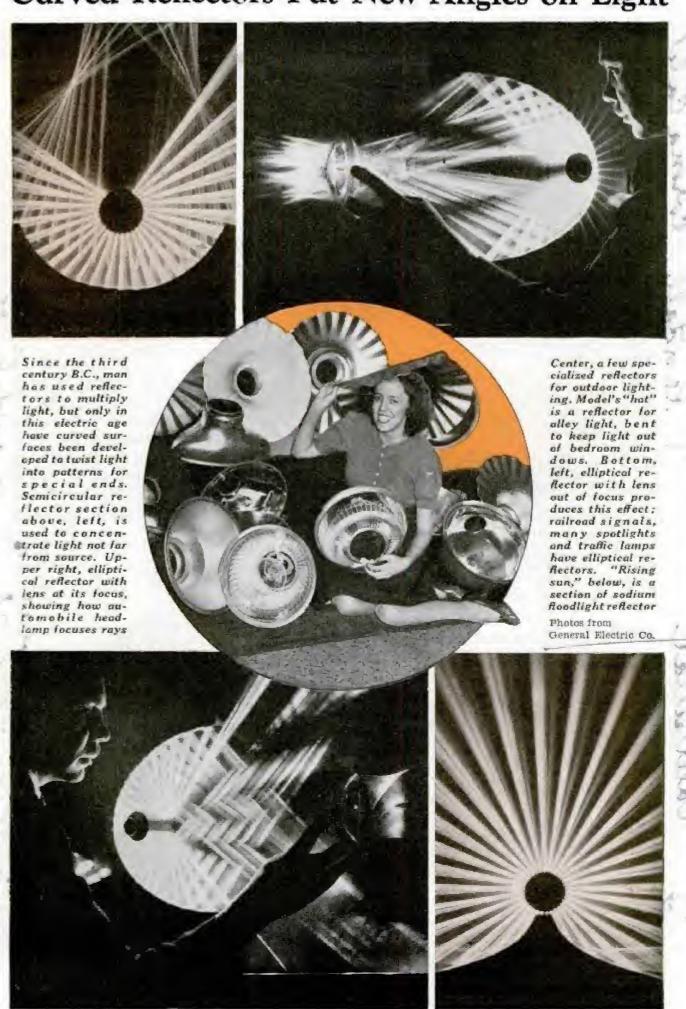
er merely presses one of the buttons on the

"desk" that holds the score sheets.

There's no gas to buy when this Italian family goes for a twin-bike ride

POPULAR MECHANICS

## Curved Reflectors Put New Angles on Light



JUNE, 1940

X280

#### Portable Floodlight Tower Carries Its Own Generator



Portable Roadlight tower, towed by tractor, is not dependent on power lines since it carries its own electric generator

Producing its own electricity to operate a bank of lights, a portable floodlight tower, mounted on skids, may be towed by truck or tractor to out-of-the-way locations beyond reach of electric power lines. A Diesel engine and fifteen-kilowatt generator, housed in a shed at the bottom, deliver the 8,000 watts required by the battery of lamps atop the forty-foot mast. Spreading a brilliant circle of light over a radius of 800 feet, the tower is effective in all kinds of large-scale outdoor operations, such as road construction and excavation work at night.

#### Bacteria Brought Back Alive After Million-Year Sleep

Bacteria that may have been in a state of suspended animation for a million years or more were recovered recently when sci3/26/ 40

entists of the Scripps Institution of Oceanography, La Jolla, Calif., took a sample with a coring tube that penetrated twenty-five feet into the ocean floor. Dr. Claude E. ZoBell, research director, expressed the theory that the bacteria had been buried beyond the reach of free oxygen for more than 1,000,000 years, and since they were of the aerobic type requiring oxygen to sustain life, theorized they must have lain dormant through the long period until the coring tube reached them.

#### Waterproof Trouser Legs Keep Entire Suit Dry

This year's spring rains saw the debut of the "raincoat with pants" for men. Knee-length trousers made of the same waterproof material as the coat are attached to the skirt of the coat by snap fasteners, and slide fasteners from ankle to knee make the protective trousers easy to put on and take off. The legs fold under the coat or may be removed entirely.



Waterproof coverings for the trouser legs are attached to raincoat by snap fasteners

Camera Sees Inside a High-Pressure Turbine

What happens when a highpressure steam jet traveling/1,500 miles an hour hits a turbine blade making 3,600 revolutions per minute can be seen on the groundglass screen of a viewing device that has given engineers their first glimpse of the heart of a turbine in action. Westinghouse engineers built the viewer into a special turbine to watch the behavior of the turbine blades under 1,250 pounds steam pressure at 900 degrees Fahrenheit, hot enough to melt lead. Experiments indicated the blades vibrate at a rate of 126,000 times per minute. To record the vibration photographically, the beam of an arc light was deflected by a mirror into the rotating turbine shaft, reflected through the blade toward a curved mirror on the end of the blade and then to a ground-glass screen where a camera taking two pictures per second caught the pattern of vibration.



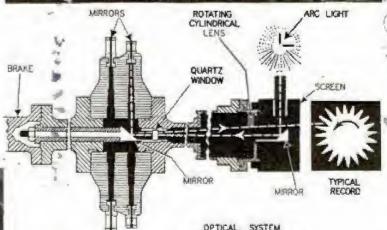


Diagram indicates how optical viewer peering into turbine (above and left) records vibration pattern. When the turbine turns without vibration, the light describes a circular path; when there is vibration, waves or notches appear in the circle

IMPULSE BLADE RESEARCH

### Non-Collapsing Ironing Board Fits into a Wall Bracket

Taking up less floor space than the collapsible type, an ironing board just introduced fits into a permanent wall bracket. There are no legs or braces to interfere with the work, and the bracket and retainer are built to withstand heavy pressure.

¶Of a world total of 44,542,137 motor vehicles registered during 1939, the United

States had 30,180,224, Europe only 9,463,293. JUNE, 1940



Duenie Dervio

## Directional 'Mike' Is Varied at Turn of a Switch



Diagrams indicate by light-to-dark variations how microphone (top) decreases in field of sensitivity

Sounds coming from any chosen direction can be picked up at will by the newest type microphone. By merely adjusting a switch at the back of the "mike," it can be made sensitive to sounds emanating from any single direction or a combination of directions, while unwanted sounds from all other sources are suppressed. This permits the instrument to be adjusted to suit the acoustic characteristics of individual studios or locations.

#### Fliers Carry Oxygen in Pocket for Leap from High Altitude

Airplane pilots who "bail out" at altitudes of 35,000 feet would die from lack of oxygen if they had no emergency supply. Dr. Walter M. Boothby of the Mayo clinic

has devised a pocket-sized tube containing just enough oxygen to keep the pilot alive on his way down through rarefied air until he reaches altitudes where there is enough oxygen to support human life. Further protection for high-altitude fliers is given by a sponge-rubber valve now being used on oxygen masks. The new rubber valve does not freeze in the cold upper air as metal valves sometimes do

#### Automatic Storage Water Heater Fits under Kitchen Sink

For the house or apartment with limited space there is an automatic storage water heater that can be concealed in a compartment under the sink. It has a snap-action



thermostat with built-in dirt trap, and is easily regulated to provide a supply of hot water at any desired temperature.

#### Wall Rack for Drying Clothes Folds Out of the Way

Little space is required for a drying rack for clothes or towels which folds into a wall-mounted case. Extended, it offers fifteen feet of drying surface. All metal, parts are plated to prevent rusting.



Fifteen feet of surface are available when this drying rack for clothes and towels is pulled out

ster,



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turning nature's own weapons against her.

It began when Louis Pasteur was almost driven out of one section of France because he suggested that silkworms were dying of a bacteriological disease. Pasteur's sole idea was to save the silkworms and so preserve one of France's most valuable industries, but he later hinted that if bacteria could kill useful insects, they might also kill harmful pests. By that time Pasteur was famous, and both the silkworm growers and the scientists had decided he was right about what was killing the worms.

But Pasteur never went beyond hinting

that bacteriological warfare against insects might be possible. That odd end of research slept until the French biologist d'Herelle picked it up and tried to kill ants with their own disease. After succeeding with one type of ant, he concentrated on killing locusts. The locusts had been swarming over Yucatan, leaving desolation in their wake, when suddenly the swarm began to dwindle. The following year the attack was less serious, the third year the locusts vanished. D'Herelle discovered bacteria were killing them. After breeding the bacteria in his laboratory, he tried artificially infecting locust swarms in Argentina and Algeria. The locusts were destroyed, the ground littered with their blackened bodies. There the line of research stopped again.

Years later Allan Dustin of the Canadian department of agriculture discovered that apple suckers, which were destroying crops in Nova Scotia, were being killed by a fungus disease. This fungus destroyed the body structure of the suckers, leaving mere shells filled with the parasites.

Dustin decided to taket leaves covered with the infected suckers and fasten them to trees in orchards where the insects

were raging. Then trouble began. "Don't fool with our orchards," the ranchers threatened. "Maybe those bugs would kill us too."

But Dustin knew his fungus was harmless to men and animals, and continued his efforts. Finally, he received permission to experiment on a few small orchards, which were being destroyed by the suckers. He pinned his infected insects to the trees and waited.

A week went by. In the untreated orchards the apple suckers were more numerous than ever, but in the orchards



At top, Mr. Bogue examines corn worms he has just inoculated with bacteria; on wall is one of the huge insect models he collects as a hobby. Bottom, culture for raising bacteria is kept slightly moist by solution in bulb at base of test tube

artificially infected with fungus the suckers appeared to be thinning out. In another week there could be no doubt; in the orchards which he had infected, the suckers were dying by millions. Then a strange thing happened. The few remaining suckers in the fungus-infected groves gathered in a swarm. Like human beings fleeing a plague-ridden/city, they scattered. Dustin smiled as he saw them go, for they were spreading the infection to ever larger areas.

After Dustin and his pest-killing fungus, research on killing insects with their own diseases dwindled again. Finally in 1936 Robert Bogue, an entomologist with degrees from Johns Hopkins and Northwestern, began to study whether bacteriological warfare was effective against many types of insects. Since that time he has used bacteria to kill corn worms, grasshoppers, fleas, cockroaches, bedbugs, and a dozen other insects. And his bacteria remain perfectly harmless to men and animals. As he says:

"When people are skeptical, I just s

(Continued to page 133A)









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Top, preparing delicately balanced saline solution for bacteria culture. Circle, planting potato bugs in heart of potato; these bugs will be inoculated with bacteria to build up strength of insect-killing germs. Periodic destruction of Rocky Mountain locust, left, by natural bacterial disease, was a clue aiding science in its new war on insects. Before shipping, bacteria are dried and placed in capsules, right

JUNE, 1940

## 'Detectives' Sniff Subway Air to Safeguard Riders' Health draped over his head as a train



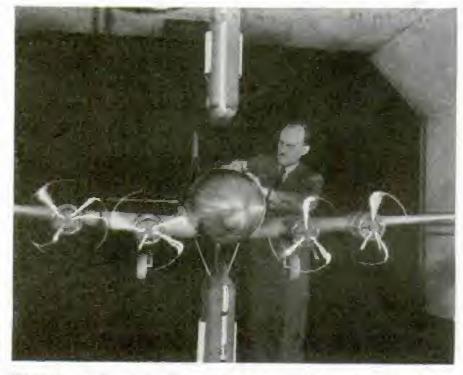
"Sleuth" tracking down a gas odor in subway sometimes drapes coat over his head to concentrate air for good whiff near train

In New York subways four gas sleuths work in day and night shifts to detect gas leaks which might injure the lives or health of subway passengers. The "detectives" ride from station to station sniffing the air for the smell of gas, but rarely finding what they seek because of extraordinary precautions taken to avoid leakage. Some trains have a small window in the front car that may be opened, and on others the sniffer stands on a platform between cars to get a whiff of tunnel atmosphere as the train rushes through.

Sometimes an inspector stands on the station platform with his coat draped over his head as a train comes in. This excludes other odors, and if there is any gas it clings to the wool for a few seconds, making it easier to detect.

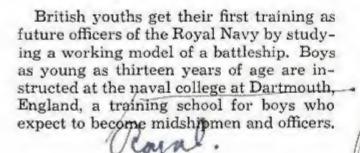
#### Electric 'Stratoliner' Model Tested in Wind Tunnel

In order to study the performance of the Boeing "Stratoliner" in controlled conditions as near as possible to actual flight, a scale model one-tenth the size of the big four-motored liner was constructed at a cost of \$16,000 and put through its paces in a wind tunnel. The model does everything but fly away. Its fuselage is filled with electric motors and other equipment by which the rudders, ailerons, wing flaps and clevators are remotely controlled. Each engine nacelle houses a fivehorsepower electric motor driving 13.8-inch propellers up to 20,000 revolutions per minute. As the control surfaces are moved in the wind-tunnel tests, the engineers can read each change in position, including deflection caused by the wind, on the instrument board.



Its engines and controls all remotely operated, this scale model of Boeing "Stratoliner" was built at cost of \$16,000 for wind-tunnel tests

Battleship Model Helps Train Young Seamen



1x 25 d.



Above, group of attentive students hearing lecture illustrated with working model of battleship. At left, learning to hoist "picket" boat from deck under guidance of naval instructor

## Spring Pistol Shoots Newspaper from Car to Rural Box

Stopping his car and reaching through the window each time he came to a rural subscriber's box was too slow and arduous a procedure for an enterprising newspaper carrier, so he devised a gun to shoot the paper from car to box. Rolled and secured with a rubber band, the newspaper is loaded into the barrel and pressed against a spiral spring. As he approaches a box he slows to five or ten miles an hour, takes careful aim, pulls the trigger and the newspaper shoots into the box. The carrier rarely misses his aim.



Slowing down but not stopping, carrier shoots newspaper into open box

JUNE, 1940

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WITH impudent bravado the youth admitted the iron bar was his, challenged the Newark detectives to prove anything against him.

"How long have you had it?" he was

asked.

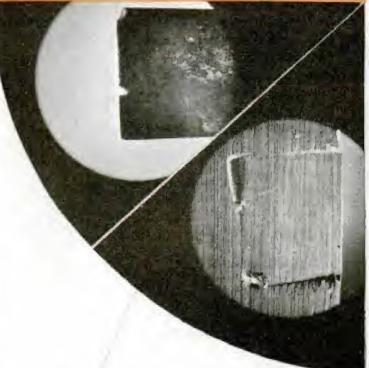
He thought fast. He had bought the jimmy in a Newark pawnshop. Police checked up on those places, probably had a record of the sale; the truth might be safest.

"Oh, about six months," he said.

The officer glanced at a typed memo.

"And on the night of October seven," he accused, "you forced open the bathroom window at 2842 Blank street, stole silver and—" here he read off a long list of missing articles.

The youth blanched suddenly, but remained defiant.



# CRIME with the CAMERA

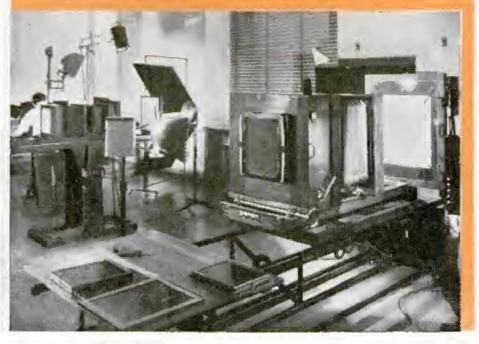


"Prove it!" he challenged.

The detective produced enlarged photographs of that bathroom window ledge and frame, plainly showing the imprint

of a jimmy. He then produced transparent slides to the same scale, showing the tip of that very jimmy which the youth admitted was his. He fitted one photograph over the other. Flaws and marks on the jimmy matched perfectly with the marks made three months before.

The prisoner promptly confessed that and a dozen other robberies. What else could he do? A criminal will go before a jury, match his wits against a policeman's memory, win an acquittal more often than not. But this mechanical memory—the camera—is something he cannot combat. Years may



later could has

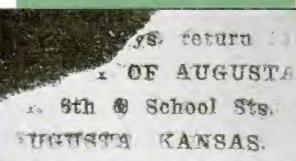
the prints. This is seldom done because it is seldom necessary. Confronted with that kind of photographic evidence, the criminal in a routine police case usually confesses.

Take another burglary case in Newark, where the thief broke a button of his overcoat while entering a house. Four pieces of the button were picked up at the scene. The dragnet brought in a collection of known thieves next day, among them one who had a broken fragment of button clinging to his overcoat.

Shown the pieces, he was contemptuous. "A black button is a black button," he said, "and a thousand guys might have busted one."

John Day, Newark police photographer, placed the pieces beside the bit still hanging on the coat. Not only did all pieces fit together perfectly, but the microscopic machine marks, made in cutting the button, matched up in the enlarged photograph. One glance at the result brought a confession from the thief.

The mechanical memory of the camera



elapse between the crime and the day of reckoning, but the camera never forgets. Its record remains to haunt the criminal after time has erased the recollection of eyewitnesses.

In modern law enforcement, all evidence is photographed. With an efficient photographic department, a district attorney might present his whole case in photographs, calling as his only witness the police cameraman to identify



Holdup victims examine file of pictures in effort to identify robbers, top. Center, infrared photography brings out illegible printing on an important bit of evidence. At right, a police photographer makes a "portrait" of a murder weapon

21450

is of great importance in preserving evidence. The scene of a murder may change materially between the commission of the crime and the presentation of evidence in court. Furniture may be removed, bloodstained floors washed, buildings torn down But a photograph is a permanent record of things as they were.

Even a few minutes may alter an important bit of evidence. In a recent murder a witness arrived while the homicide squad was still investigating, volunteered that he was talking over the phone to the victim, that the conversation had been interrupted by loud voices, followed by a shot. If this were true it solved the crime, for the victim had shouted the murderer's name before he was shot. But the handset phone was on its cradle, and detectives and reporters all denied having touched it, thus impeaching the witness.

An alert police photographer hurried to headquarters, developed his plates, returned with photos showing the phone off its cradle. A reporter then admitted calling his paper while detectives were out of the room.

Investigation carry two cameras as part of their field equipment. One is a Graflex fingerprint camera, permanently focused to take prints at full size, and with a self-contained light. The other is a bellows Kodak with both ground glass and wireland-peep finders, synchronized flash, and built-in self-timer.

Since a municipal police force need never work at any great distance from its headquarters, all photography may be left to experts who may be called to the scene in a few minutes. The Newark police force, listed by the F.B.I. as among the most progressive in crime detection, keeps one man on duty at all times in headquarters, to take "mugs" and do laboratory work. Two others are on duty for instant dispatch to the scene of accident or crime. In each portable photographic kit is a fingerprint camera, a four by five-inch Speed Graphic, an eight by ten-inch commercial view camera with three lens boards, and photoflash and photoflood equipment. The eight by ten view cameras are huge, unwieldy affairs, by the miniature fan's standard. But John Day, director of the photographic laboratories, insists they be used whenever speed is not a requisite. Actually, little

(Continued to page 116A)

#### Policeman's Pocket Radio Receives Orders on Beat



With the lapel earphone and the tiny pocket buttery the policeman is always in touch with headquarters

Policemen of the Chicago park system are trying out a one-way pocket radio set for receiving orders while on their beats. Its tiny earphone is attached to the uniform lapel when not being used. The radio has a "pant-leg" aerial and a battery case one by three by five inches that slips into the coat pocket.

#### Penguin Travels in the Ice Box

First of its kind to travel north of the equator, an emperor penguin sent from Little America to the National Zoo in Washington was kept in a refrigerator at thirty-four degrees Fahrenheit aboard ship, with a mirror in its pen because it seemed to enjoy looking at its reflection.

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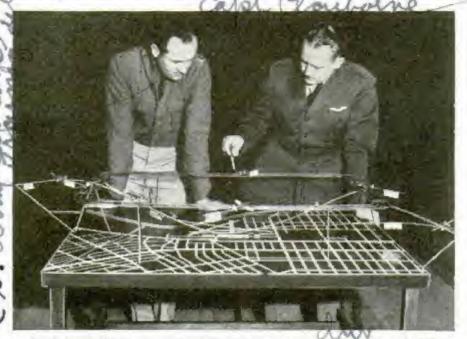
### Motorcycle 'Fire Truck' Fights Airplane Blaze



Two white-clad firemen and a motorcycle "fire truck" form a complete, self-contained fire department at the Naval Reserve Air Base at Floyd Bennett field. The motorcycle carries two 235-pound tanks of carbon dioxide for extinguishing fires, as well as two portable thirty-pound tanks. Other compartments contain asbestos suits, a fifty-foot hose, and an assortment of tools.

Top, left, holding bolt cutters used in rescue works and, right, unreeling carbon-dioxide fire hose. Bottom, asbestos-clad firemen on motorcycle "fire truck"

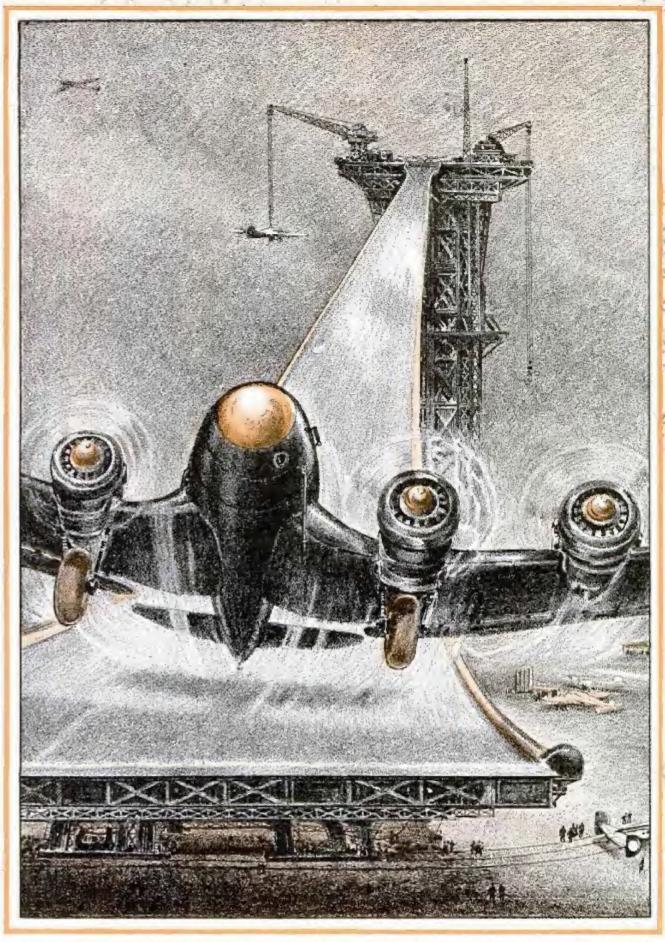
### Tiny Planes on Wire Tracks Illustrate Formation Flight.



Models of planes are arranged on wire to simulate formation flights

Model airplanes mount ed on what appears to be a miniature trolley system give the "orders of the day" to the army's flying cadets at Glendale, Calif. Capt. H. C. Claiborne, chief instructor, devised the three-dimensional method of illustrating formation flights. The tiny planes are fixed to wire tracks over a table map of airport and city, and before the cadets go aloft for maneuvers they see the planes arranged in the military formation they are to follow.

'Ski Slide' Proposed to Launch Heavy Planes



One spectacular solution of the problem of launching heavily laden aircraft from airports with limited takeoff areas is the "ski jump" method under consideration in Germany, where it was proposed as a means of getting big bombers into the air from small airports. The plane would be hoisted by crane, then take off down the incline until speed is picked up to rise. The tower would rotate to head into the wind

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### Speedboat with V-6 Engine to Seek World Title

In an attempt to push still higher the world's speed record for power boats, Lou Fageol, widely known racing boat enthusiast and sportsman, will drive his newly built racer, "So Long," over a one-mile revolutions it develops 550 horsepower,

1160 Marguro Vico

ty-one foot speedster is powered with a 728-cubic-inch V-6 engine, equipped with a Roots type blower supercharger. At 3,000 revolutions it develops 550 horsepower, and the propeller shaft turns at 7,000 revolutions per minute. Gasoline is consumed at about sixty gallons an hour, a seventeengallon tank being carried. In trials, "So Long," designed with a concave bottom, attained speeds of more than ninety-three miles an hour. In an official race two runs are made through a one-mile time trap, traveling the straight course once in each direction, and the average is taken as official for one mile. The Gold Cup title, which had been won in 1937 by Theo Rossi, of Italy, was brought back to America last February when Hugh Gingras piloted George C. Cannon's non-supercharged "Gray Goose III" at 92.308 miles an hour at Rockledge, Fla.

Left, mechanics installing the 728-cubic-inch V-six engine in racing boat, "So Long." Before the run is made, at right, tanks are electrically heated to warm the oil. Bottom, in trial runs "So Long" already has demonstrated her ability to travel faster than ninety miles an hour



#### Black Is Nation's Favorite Finish for Automobile Bodies

Color preferences differ widely throughout the country, according to a study by E. I. du Pont de Nemours and company, but the only finish agreed upon in all sections is black, which leads other shades by five to thirty per cent in all localities. One exception, however, occurred in 1939 on the Pacific coast when dark gun-barrel gray held first place. Aside from black, the tastes of buyers are at sharp variance, depending on their location. Almost forty per cent of cars sold this year in California are finished in creamy beiges and light greens. In Florida also the demand for light cars is great. In the deep south, despite semi-tropical climate, almost fifty per cent of cars sold are black; last year dark blue was second choice, and now dark green runs second. Preference is largely for black in middle Atlantic states, with

Chrompopular Mechanics

Coul Charlie

dark gray and dark green following. New England turns thumbs down on light colors and brown. The northwest and prairie states are turning from dark green as second choice to maroon. There is similar disagreement among individual cities. For instance, Syracuse, N. Y., accepts dark grays, Memphis refuses them. Indianapolis likes dark green, Omaha dislikes it. St. Louis buys many cars finished in maroon, yet New York does not care for that color. Dark blues sell best in Charlotte, N. C., while Philadelphia holds dark blue in disfavor. Pale gray beige is more popular in Los Angeles than in any other city. Omaha is one of the few places where mapleleaf browns sell well.

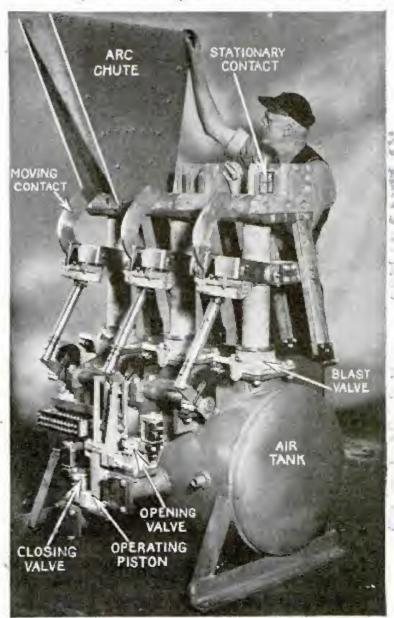
### Convertible Bridge Table Has an Extra Top

Whether it's a table of bridge, or a six-sided game of poker or hearts, a convertible table just introduced will furnish a top to fit the game. A fifty-four-inch circular top fits over the square bridge top, each having a linoleum surface banded with aluminum. The chrome post is mounted on a non-tip base of porcelain.



Circular top fitty-four inches wide fits over square table when more than four play

### Powerful Arc Extinguished by Twenty-Pound Air Blast



To "blow out" arc, valve admits air from tank to small cylinder, operating piston moves down, and the blast valves open to permit rush of air through arcs

It takes only 1/120 of a second for a twenty-pound blast of air, racing at 600 miles per hour, to extinguish an arc of 1,500,000 kilovolt-amperes, in the new Westinghouse compressed-air circuit breaker. All that is left of the arc is a slight puff of smoke. The job of the circuit breaker, controlling about 500,000 times the amount of power in the average home circuit, is to open the circuit in case of trouble on the line and prevent its reaching the powerhouse. It is used also by power engineers when they want to open and close the circuit. The temperature of an arc at the start is about 9,000 degrees Fahrenheit, almost as hot as the sun. This is cooled to about 200 degrees almost instantly when the compressed air puffs it out as you would a candle. In ordinary still air the arc would have to be pulled out some forty feet before it would be extinguished.

### Rubber 'Lung' for Rescuers Stimulates Circulation



Applying rubber "lung" at normal breathing pace restores respiration and revives heart and lung action

One person can operate a new rubber "lung" which is applied like the Schafer smoke or drowning. While the victim lies cause the usual state of the carried in a ing the lung are pressed just beneath the point of his shoulder blades. Then with rhythmic action of alternate pressure and lifting, the abdomen and chest are drawn in and out, restoring normal breathing by forcing air into the lungs and expelling it." Since they cover a larger area of the body than is possible with the hands alone, the cups are said to stimulate blood circulation through the heart and lungs, also preventing blood pools from forming or remaining within the body.

#### U. S. Plans 250,000-Pound Plane with 11,000-Mile Range

Basic plans for a 250,000-pound airplane that could cruise for 11,000 miles with at top speed of 380 miles an hour have been developed in the United States, according to Glenn-L. Martin, aircraft manufacturer. Such a plane could carry 64,000 pounds of bombs 3,000 miles, with a crew of sixteen. While the actual building of so tremendous

an air vehicle is probably distant, Mr. Martin said the nation is planning aircraft that can stay aloft three days at a time, and that a new era of commercial aeronautics with 150,000-pound planes is at hand.

Plastic Cover Makes Safelight of Darkroom Lamp

By removing the plastic jacket of a darkroom safelight just offered for photographic fans you have an inspection light. Inside is a sevenand-one-halfwatt frosted white bulb, sufficient for ordinary dark-



room illumination; the outer cover, removable, is of shatterproof plastic in red, yellow or green. This dual light obviates the need for two separate outlets.

#### Wafer-Thin Mechanical Pencil Can Be Used as Bookmark

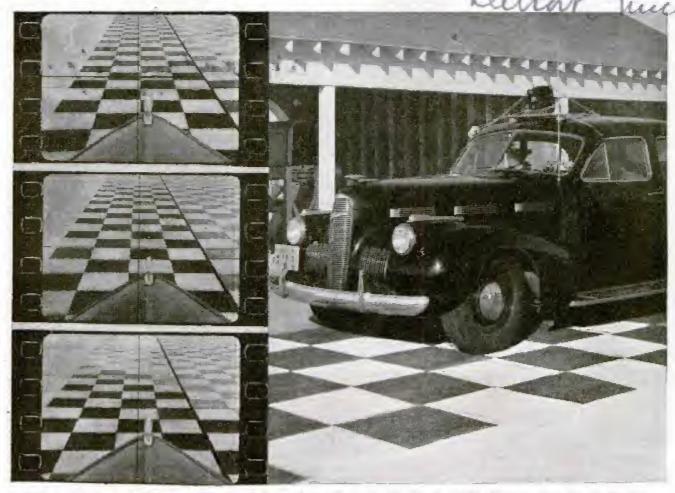
As thin as a pocket comb, and with two hand method to resuscitate victims of gas, nat sides, a incommendation of gas, hand method to resuscitate victims like cause the usual bulge when it is clipped in notebook or used as a bookmark.



Slender pencil lies flat in notebook or vest pochet. Cap that closes extra lead compartment holds craser

ULAR MECHANICS

### Effect of Side Wind on Car Shown by Movies



Views at left are taken from film made to analyze effect of side winds, shift of film center-line indicating extent of deviation from straight path. Right, camera on car roof is focused on checkerboard road

Motion pictures played a part recently in studying the effect of cross winds on the steering and stability of an automobile. A movie camera was strapped on top of the car and focused forward upon a checker-board strip of pavement. When the car drove into this section of roadway, it was struck broadside by a blast of air from a battery of propellers, the driver making no effort to hold the car in a straight line.

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Here the camera, started from the driver's seat, made its pictorial record of the checkerboard surface showing accurately the amount of deviation caused by the cross wind. Engineers could regulate the wind velocity at any point up to twenty-five miles an hour. This permits tests to be made under identical conditions in analyzing the many factors that enter into car stability and steering ease.

### 'Recipe Books' on Metal Shelf Tilt to Reveal Card Index

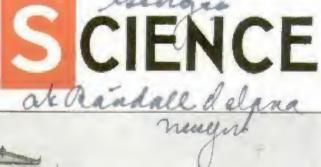
Favorite cooking recipes can be filed conveniently in an attractive set of "books," each of which holds 100 three-by-five cards. Each book is titled, and the set of seven are held in place on the shelf by a steel rod that permits tilting the book forward for access to the card index.

More than 5,000 pounds of nails, screws and other bits of metal were picked up on gravel roads of five Missouri counties in one month by highway maintenance crews with a truck carrying three electromagnets.

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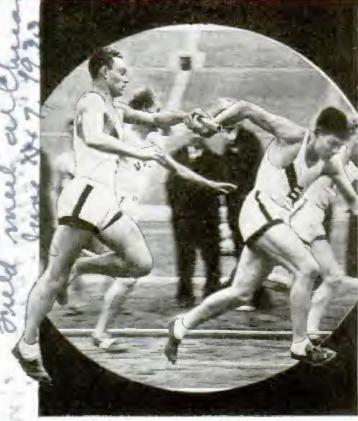
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World record holder clears hurdle, top; right, clearing barrier in race that set "prep" record. Bottom, passing baton. Drawing across center of page shows hurdling technique

### By Lawson Robertson

Coach of University of Pennsylvania and

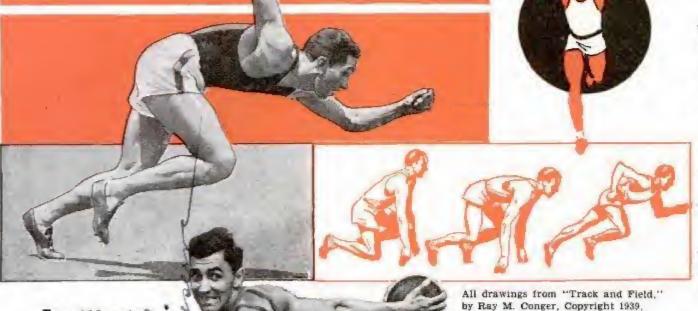
OT a single Olympic record, among all the track and field events still listed for men, dates back farther than 1932. Except for two distance walks and the hammer throw, all world records are less than twelve years old.

Has man suddenly become more fleet of foot, more enduring, more agile? Are muscles better today than they were a generation, even a decade, ago?

I do not believe so. Howard Drew was national champion in 1913 with 10% seconds for the 100-yard dash and 22% seconds for the furlong. Today the records for these sprints are 9.4 and 20.3; yet I firmly believe that Drew at his best could have beaten Wykoff and Owens.

Not the brawn of man has improved, but his brain. Science has taught him how to reach the peak of physical perfection on the day of the race. Science has refined his form. Science has given him infinitely

# RULES the CINDERS



Top, 400-meter
Olympic record
holder starts a
sprint; compare
with drawing
which illustrates
starting positions. Right, a
decathlon winner
ready to let fly
the discus. Below, breasting
tape at finish

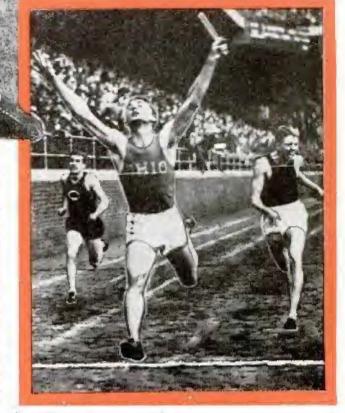
by Ray M. Conger, Copyright 1939, by A. S. Barnes and Company, Inc.

get maximum speed. The coach can drive home these points by showing slow-motion pictures of champions.

With thousands of young men going to college, where dozens went at the turn of the century, these things are being taught to more and more men. Competition is

better equipment than was available to the champions of old.

Good sprinting is a matter of mechanical precision. The old-time champion had that precision as a natural gift; today it can be taught. A coach can develop form, teach the track candidate to toe straight ahead, distribute his weight properly, strive for high knee action. He can teach the technique of the crouched start, the stride, the carriage of the body. He can teach him to attempt to swing his arms faster than his legs. This can't be done, of course, but a sprinter must attempt it to



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neel Consistion Ca mental hazards. inches are important.

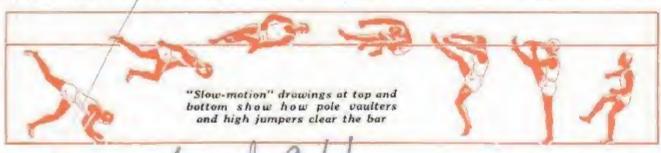
Pole vaulter clears bar at 14 feet 7 inches, top. Below, electric starting gun invented by the author ean't be fired if runner lifts a hand for false start

keener. Men must push record time to win. Pushed hard enough and often enough, records are bound to fall. And records continually being broken are no longer

Mechanical science has come to the aid of the sprinter, too, since Burke won the first Olympic 100-meter dash in 12 seconds, in 1896. Better drained, firmer, more springy tracks permit shorter spikes, hence lighter shoes. Starting blocks have speeded up sprints by a tenth of a second. These blocks give a firmer takeoff than holes in the cinders, and raise the runner slightly above the track instead of compelling him to start from a hole. The result is a slightly longer first step; a matter of inches, but

Burke won the first Olympic 400 meters in 54% seconds. High-school boys beat that today. Pennsylvania's Bill Carr has lowered that record by a full eight seconds; what was once a middle-distance run is now a sprint for the entire lap.

The most remarkable improvement in



POPULAR MECHANICS

running time has been in the middle distances. There is 28.1 seconds difference between Flack's time for the 800 meters at the first Olympiad, and Tom Hampson's in the tenth. Flack also won the first Olympic 1,500-meter race, so he must have been considerable of a runner forty-four years ago. Yet his time, only 4 minutes, 33½ seconds, has since been lowered 45.4 seconds. Lovelock would have beaten Flack by three quarters of a lap.

That man has improved physically to that extent in a generation is absurd. Scientifically designed tracks account for a second or two per lap of this improvement. Better shoes have perhaps cut another second or two. The rest has been mental. Men have learned to pace themselves, have im-

proved their running form.

Competition is part of this mental stimulus. Those early champions didn't have to run any faster to win. As the century opened, man was thinking in terms of the 4:30 mile. A dozen years later Abe Kiviat forced milers to think in terms of 4:20. Joi@ Ray came along and 4:20 was not good enough. Nurmi forced the time down to 4:10. Today half a dozen runners chase Glenn Cunningham across the tape, allwell under that mark. Cunningham's mile record of 4:4.4 was made indoors, like most top performances above the half miles Track surface, wind velocity, and other conditions, can be more nearly ideal indoors. The Madison Square Garden track, where many records have been made, is scientifically banked on the turns to permit an even pace, and its soft wood permits light spikes. With more and sharper corners, shorter straightaways, and consequent jostling, the intelligent runner is at a great advantage here. Men who master indoor tracks invariably better their outdoor times. If indoor tracks could be air conditioned, to correct the overheated, smoke-filled atmosphere, the four-minute mile would be almost a certainty.

Long-distance races seem to bear out my contention that it is man's mind that has improved, rather than his body. While records continue to be lowered for the longer races, there is not such marked disparity in times. In the long grinds, endurance is the principal factor.

Four full seconds have been whittled from the high hurdle mark in a generation; the time has been cut twenty-five per

(Continued to page 118A)

### Adjuster for Front Car Seat Has Forty-Five Positions



Tilting lever is reached easily by driver's left hand, above. Two bottom views show other seat positions

Comfort for drivers of all sizes and proportions is offered by a three-way adjuster that permits changing the front seat to any of forty-five positions. To meet individual needs, the seat can be moved five inches forward and backward, one and threefourths inches up and down, and it has a reclining range of about forty-five degrees. By means of the control lever at his lefthand fingertips the driver may change the angle of tilt while riding.

### Hose Washer Can't Get Lost

Loss of washers from garden hose is effectively prevented by a new type connection. The washer is inserted into a slot in the coupling nut by deforming the washer slight-



ly; once in place it springs back into its original form and fits tightly.

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Sledge for Hand Ambulance Glides through Deep Snow

Julich Pers Combine



Double-deck ambulance mounted on sledge glides easily over heavy snow where wheeled vehicle would make slow progress

Field ambulances used by armies on far northern fronts are being mounted on specially constructed sledges for ease in transporting wounded soldiers over snow. When sled runners are not needed, the hand ambulance can be run off the sledge and wheeled on its rubber-tired chassis. Invented in England, the cart has twin

stretchers to carry two injured men.

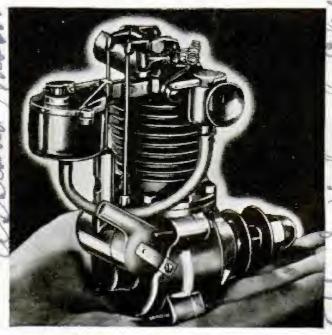
## Magnetic "Brain" for Telescope 3 23 Keeps It Trained on Star

Pointed skyward, and turning like the hand of a gigantic electric clock, the fifty-five foot long telescope on Mount Palomar will require unerring accuracy in following the star its 200-inch "eye" is to photograph. This exacting task will be turned over to a robot, developed by Henry E. Warren, of the Warren Telechron company. It consists of a dancing wire that has much in common with a violin string, its duty being to keep the telescope in step with the rotation of the earth, while compensating also for variations caused by bending of the star's beam in the atmosphere. Its vibra-

tion frequency being unaffected by large temperature changes, this wire normally is "kicked" sixty times a second by a tiny magnet. However, the frequency of vibration can be increased or decreased as little as one a second by a powerful alnico magnet hidden in a weight attached to the lower end of the wire. Motors, synchronized with the electric "kicks," thus are regulated by the magnetic "brain" so they will move the telescope just fast or slow enough to keep a star in yiew.

### Tiny Four-Cycle Engine Has Overhead Valves

Designed especially for model builders, a four-cycle engine with overhead valves fits into the palm of your hand, weighs but fifteen ounces and delivers two-thirds horsepower. Its four-cycle operation provides instant starting, smooth power, lower battery consumption and permits use of throttle control on radio-operated model planes. The engine is built in twenty, fifteen and ten cubic centimeter displacements, and conversion from one to another size is possible with a few interchangeable parts. The motor is available complete or in kit form.



Throttle control on model planes operated by radio is possible when this fifteen-ounce engine is used

Jeenen Lugine

## Million-Pound 'Nutcracker' Thrust Splits Oak





At left is the research machine that can exert a 3,000,000-pound push; it was built to test fabricated aluminum products. At right, it uses a third of its muscle power to split a sturdy oak.

So delicate that it can measure the force it exerts in cracking an egg, a precision metal-working machine at New Kensington, Pa., split the trunk of an oak tree with a million-pound thrust—only one-third of the power it could have mustered. It can exert a 3,000,000-pound push, a 1,000,000-pound pull. The machine stands twenty-

five feet high above the floor and extends fifteen feet below. Powerful enough to flatten a locomotive boiler or crack a watch crystal without damaging the hands the tool is to be used in a research laboratory for testing the behavior of fabricated aluminum products in full size instead of scale models, as has been the custom.

## 'Crash Boat' for Seaplane Base Has a Four-Bed Hospital

In the forward cabin of an army "crash boat" assigned to a Gulf coast seaplane base is an emergency hospital accommodating four litters. Intended for rescue work at army seaplane stations, the twin-screw boat can step out at better than thirty miles an hour. It carries a portable derrick and six-man raft and has a ship-to-shore radio telephone. The boat is forty feet long and has an eleven-foot beam.



Army rescue boat carries portable derrick and an emergency hospital

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20,000 FEET DOWN

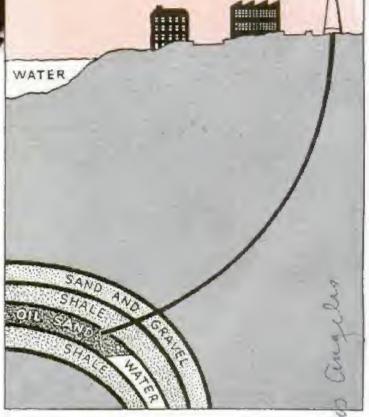
drilling bit is placed on the end of a pipe, the pipe is rotated, and the bit cuts its way down. Mud forced down the inside of the drill pipe picks up the chips and debris and carries them up to the surface outside the pipe. More lengths of pipe are screwed on as the bit goes deeper.

Down two miles or more, this procedure becomes costly and complicated. It may cost only a dollar a foot and require only thirty days to drill a well a mile deep, yet the minimum cost for an 11,000-foot well runs ten dollars a foot and drilling takes at least six months. Every day or so the drilling has, to stop while the drill pipe is raised section by

WHENEVER dwindling oil reserves warrant it, petroleum engineers are ready to take their new tools and technique and bore four miles down into the earth for oil—a mile further than the deepest well yet drilled.

To recover the cost of a 15,000-foot well, an oil company has to produce from it about 7,500,000 gallons of gasoline, equivalent to the annual consumption of 10,000 passenger cars. A 20,000-foot well is an even greater gamble and the engineers might spend half a million dollars before learning whether they had tapped a new oil basin or merely drilled a hole in the ground. Wells approaching that depth, however, may soon be attempted in California where the potential production of new pools discovered last year barely equaled the amount of oil taken from the ground during the same period.

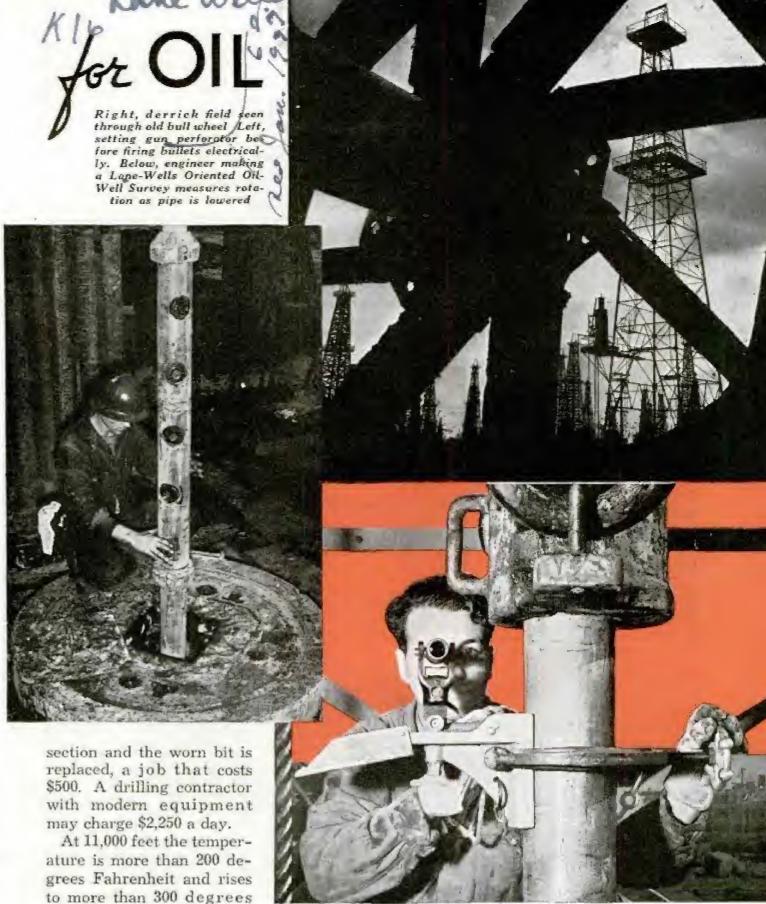
Drilling a well sounds simple. A sharp



Top, making up tubing string above a deep-well plunger pump which sends oil to surface. Below, directional drilling allows a convenient location of rig

POPULAR MECHANICS

e. Weller G.



below 15,000 feet. The heat increases wear on the bit and causes complications when water is encountered. The flowing water, above boiling, must be shut out with cement; the high temperature is apt to harden the cement before it can be forced down into place. A new cement remains pumpable for two hours at a tem-

perature of 212 degrees.

At 15,000 feet below the surface the earth is under a pressure of 6,000 pounds per square inch. Fortunately for oil-well engineers the pressure exerted on the drilling mud to make it travel the six-mile round trip tends to counterbalance this pressure. Belief that the earth has a molten core is shaken by recent seismic stud-

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ies indicating the greatest

ies indicating the greatest part of the interior is solid in spite of its high temperature.

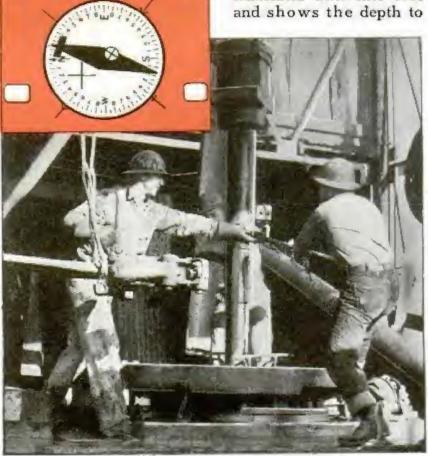
Field engineers and laboratory men have been preparing their tools for the time when deep drilling becomes necessary. Derricks as high as 178 feet are used, 250-foot derricks are proposed. These tall rigs could handle longer lengths of drill pipe, reducing the delay in changing bits. Drill pipe is now made of alloy steel and provided with a new square thread for increased strength. Boiler steam pressures are raised as high as 500 pounds per square inch and the rotary table that spins the string of drill pipe turns as fast as 300 revolutions per minute, with twice that speed anticipated.

The circulating mud is pumped at 800 gallons a minute under pressures as high as 1,500 pounds per square inch. A 50,000-pound hoist that lifts the pipe in and out of the hole is equipped with water-cooled brakes and can lift a string of pipe weighing more than a quarter million pounds.

Along with these mechanical improvements is a host of new instruments that takes most of the guessing out of drilling. Dials in front of the chief driller tell him the pump pressure, weight on the bottom, and revolutions per minute. The Lane-Wells motion-picture survey instrument, lowered into the hole, makes a record of inclination and direction as it goes down. giving the driller a picture that helps him drill in the direction desired. Without close control the bit may slant to one side as it encounters resistance, may even turn corkscrew fashion.

Warre Well

Temperature indicators determine the heat at various depths. In holes partly filled with oil or water an echo meter translates time into feet and shows the depth to



Operator of gun perforating truck (top) fires gun from panel when dial shows right depth. Center, movie film from Lane-Wells Multiple Shat Survey instrument shows inclination of bore. Below, attaching rotating "kelly" to drill pipe on floor of well

the surface of the liquid after a shot is fired from the floor of the drilling rig. The location and width of oil-bearing sands that may not flow into the hole without special treatment are detected by electrical log-

ging or by geochemistry.

A multiple cannon known as the Lane-Wells gun perforator, stimulates production from an oil sand by firing bullets horizontally into the stratum after it has been lowered into the well. The slugs penetrate the oil casing and enter the consolidated sand, opening up the formation so that oil can flow from it. Instead of exhausting one formation, then drilling on in search of another producing zone, the oil engineers can now drill down through a number of formations and then tap each of them with the gun perforator, obtaining production from a number of zones at the same time. Sometimes tons of gravel are pumped down the drill pipe and forced out around the bottom to enlarge the diameter of the hole and to prevent the oil sand from squeezing in and damaging equipment after the well is placed on production.

In most places you can't give mud away, but under unfavorable circumstances as much as \$75,000 have been spent on mud to drill one well. Besides lifting debris from the hole the mud lubricates the drill pipe, seals the walls to prevent caving, cleans and cools the bit, and controls any gas or oil pressure in the formations through which the hole is being drilled. Ordinary mud won't do. A major company may employ half a dozen mud chemists to check the cake thickness, alkalinity, and salt content of the mud and study its reactions under heat and pressure. Water glass and common salt are frequently added to help seal the walls of deep wells before the casing is installed. In some soft formations the mud does much of the actual drilling, being forced down under high pressure so that it "hydraulics" the material out from the bottom.

The result of these advances is that "hoodoo" wells are becoming few and far between. Of course, hard luck even today, sometimes will dog a well. On one occasion the bit mysteriously "froze" in a tough formation at 4,000 feet and the drill pipe twisted off 1,000 feet below the surface. A fishing tool was lowered to engage the broken end of the drill pipe and bring it up, but only a hundred feet of pipe were

(Continued to page 120A)

### Floor Squeegee Steers Itself When Handle Is Twisted



By twisting handle, V-shaped floor squeegee is made to steer itself when working in close quarters

Especially handy for working in confined places, around corners, or under trucks, worktables and benches, a V-shaped floor squeegee steers itself in any direction when the handle is twisted. It can be used for removing water, snow or slush, and the double-edged blade is reversible.

### Cake or Pie Cut in Equal Slices by Handy Divider



Cake divider, right, makes ten equal cuts simply by forcing it through the cake as illustrated at left

Dividing cakes and pies into equal portions is a task performed by a wheel-shaped cutter with wire "knives" mounted like spokes. Made of material that will not rust, two types are available for making either eight or ten wedge-shaped pieces. To serve uniform-size cuts you simply press the cutter down firmly over the cake.

JUNE, 1940

Infrared Rays of Drying Lamp Can Broil Steak



Radiant infrared heating lamps soon may be doing hundreds of heating and drying tasks in home and industry, such as drying the family washing, drying painted surfaces, photographic negatives and prints, food products, and many others. Already they are drying enamel on auto bodies and furniture quicker than it can be done by other methods. Four new lamps use less than five per cent of their energy to produce visible light, and most of the balance

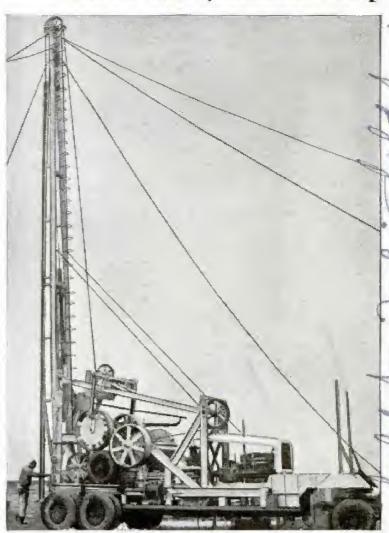
goes into invisible infrared rays or radiant heat. The most versatile of these is a 250-watt drying lamp and reflector hermetically sealed in a single unit, which can be operated in an ordinary light socket. In two unusual tests, an inch-thick steak was broiled between two of the lamps in nine minutes, and popcorn started popping within two minutes after the lamps were turned on. Varnish on a door panel was completely dry after sixty-seven minutes

of exposure to a battery of nine lamps, whereas twenty-four hours were required by another sample to dry without assistance. The other three new lamps, comprising 250, 500 and 1,000-watt sizes, have clear glass bulbs and are designed for use with auxiliary reflector equipment. Infrared rays, like light, travel in straight lines, and produce an increase in temperature when they strike a substance capable of absorbing them, just as those from the sun warm the earth after they have passed through sub-zero space.

### Hollow Plastic Chessmen Are Ballasted by Buyer

Chessmen with the appearance of rich ivory or marble but actually molded of the plastic Tenite have just been introduced. The secret of their low cost is the fact that they are molded hollow, to be ballasted by the purchaser. They may be filled with plaster, putty. or similar material, or even with a metal screw sealed into the base. Felt tabs are supplied for covering the base after the ballast is introduced. Available in two sizes, the plastic chessmen are virtually unbreakable. They may be had in the conventional black and white or in a rich red,

### Oil-Well Drill on a Trailer Can Bore 4,000 Feet Deep



Portable oil-well rig set up in preparation to make test drill; it is economical to operate and will drill well 4,000 feet deep

Despite its seventeen and one-half tons, an oilwell drilling rig, mounted on a semitrailer, can

travel over soft ground by dividing the load among four dual wheels at the rear. While on the go, its fifty-foot mast lies parallel with the chassis, and to raise it upright a chain! is used. During drilling operations the rig is controlled by compressed air, eliminating the need for chain belts, sprocket gears and jaw clutches. The rig carries its own power plant, an eighty-horsepower gasoline engine. Its inventors claim unusual economy for their drill and believe it capable of boring wells to a 4,000foot depth.



After filling plastic shells of chessmen with ballast, felt bases are applied

JUNE, 1940 Blackon, 160

Award 8

# WEIGHING the WEATHER

FOREST fires don't wait for the rangers. To be there when things start, the rangers "weigh in" all the factors conducive to a runaway blaze, add them up and if the total looks dangerous they spot men in strategic locations to wait for something to start.

Weather, and moisture in the vegetation are two of the most important elements in plotting fire probabilities. One of the ranger's simplest yet most scientific forecasting instruments is the fuel moisture stick. Baked tinder-dry in ovens, these sticks are suspended on a wire rack ten inches above natural vegetative litter on the ground. The same side is always upward, the same end always points north to assure equal exposure. Like blotters, they absorb moisture, and after a fixed period of exposure they are weighed on a special instrument and their moisture content recorded.

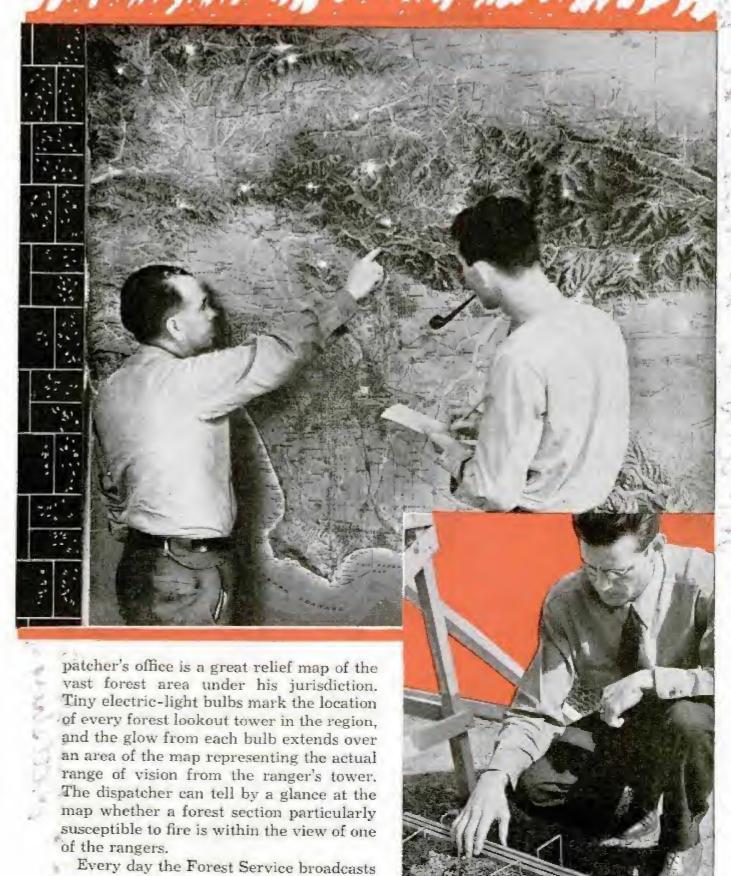
On the wall at the Fire Dis-





Forest service radio truck with collapsible mast, top, used as field base in fighting fires. Below, (left) weighing fuel moisture sticks for humidity; (center) ranger reports progress of fire fighters to headquarters; (right) measuring wind velocity with anemometer in plotting fire danger factors

# to Combat FOREST FIRES



Light bulbs on relief map represent lookout towers and area they light on map is actual range of vision from tower. Below, a ranger places oven-dried sticks

a report of fire-hazard factors throughout the wooded areas, and, in fighting fires, two-man radio trucks with folding antenna equipment and portable back-pack radios keep rangers in touch with headquarters. on rack to test humidity of air and vegetation

# Light Television Set in Plane Broadcasts Air View of City





Lightweight electronic television cameras ride in a plane high over New York; below is view of companion plane as received on its own screen

Passengers in a sky liner above Manhattan saw themselves flying on a television screen and earth-bound watchers saw on their screens a view of New York's skyscrapers from the plane window as lightweight electronic television cameras made a pioneer flight over the city recently. The equipment, mounted in a United Air Lines plane, consisted of a two-camera chain with a relay transmitter operating on 104 centimeters, shortest wave length ever used in practical television, the ten units packed in carrying cases weighing about 700 pounds. A 4,000-watt gasoline generator was mounted in the baggage compartment. Cameras were focused from ports in the fuselage, from the top of which nondirectional antennas shot signals to the RCA building receiver for relay. Perfect reception was reported as far distant as Schenectady, nearly 130 miles away. Automobiles on the express highway below, ships at their berths, skyscrapers, the Statue of Liberty and Brooklyn bridge were televised from the air, and the cameras were trained on a companion plane flying alongside, the signals bouncing back from the RCA building to produce the companion plane's own portrait on the screen of a television receiver it carried.

#### Pistol-Grip Spotlight Throws Beam a Quarter Mile

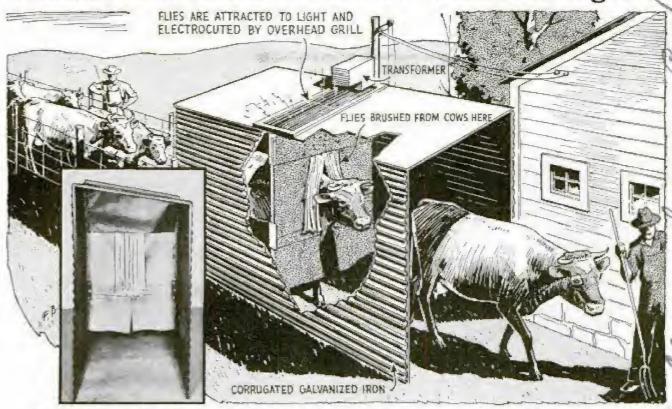
Aimed by a pistol grip and "fired" by a trigger, an emergency lamp just introduced has an 85,000candlepower light that will throw a bright beam a quarter of a mile. Its batteries fit in a flat pack carried on the back. Intended for police, firemen, safety officials, sportsmen, woodsmen and travelers, the lamp can be supplied with colored lenses which snap over the regular lens for signaling or warning.



Batteries carried in the back pack have enough power to throw a strong beam over a quarter of a mile

PUPULAR MECHANICS

Chute Kills Flies as Cattle Pass through It



Cutaway drawing shows how curtains brush off flies as cattle pass through chute. Flies trying to escape through the "skylight" are electrocuted. Inset, lower left, photograph looking into chute

Flies of the biting and sucking variety that nestle on helpless cattle are brushed off the animals as they pass through a chute that is designed to electrocute the insects when they try to escape. The brushing equipment includes flexible aprons that spread open when the knees of a cow strike them, springing back immediately to their normal position to scrape the under part of the animal. A rope curtain hanging overhead drags over the horns and around the

ears to remove the horn flies. The chute is dark inside, and when flies are brushed off they dart toward the nearest source of light—an electric screen installed in the roof—where contact means instant death. The chutes are made with galvanized steel sides and roof, and may be placed in any passageway used by the cattle, as at the entrance to the milking barn, although cows have been trained to enter the chute even when it was placed in an open field.

Three-Cylinder Plane Engine Yields Fifty Horsepower

Better streamlining of small planes is said to be possible with a new threecylinder motor that has no cam, gears or valves, but generates fifty horsepower and weighs only 130 pounds. The tiny power plant is a barreltype engine, having its three cylinders parallel to the shaft. Still a mystery, according to engineers, is what is termed the "wabble-plate," or conversion mechanism. Water is the cooling agent.



Small engine with three cylinders helps streamlining of light airplanes

JUNE, 1940

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# Making YOUR VOICE



By Julian Leggett

HOW would you like to trade your voice for a new one, perhaps a high tenor for a deep bass?

While science can't give you a new voice, it can change your old one so that you wouldn't recognize it. Among the strange machines devised for turning voices topsy-turvy is an electrical arrangement that makes the same voice sound like a man's, a woman's, a child's or even a locomotive's. Another scrambles speech so that it is unintelligible in

Proscernium arch

'Clock" here tells

long he has been on

interlocutor how

Interlocutor

Actors leave here

after interview

Actors go on stage here when platform



Testing sound perception, top; curtains break up reflections, prevent creation of sound pattern. Below, diagram of the "stereophonic" stage and talking dummies used in the demonstration

transmission until a companion machine at some distant point puts the scattered sounds back in their proper places. Still other equipment actually creates speech, selecting one of two complex tones—a hiss and a buzz—and controlling its intensity and tone quality by a keyboard. You can even "see" your voice as a light pattern on the oscilloscope.



has led these scientists

has led these scientists into investigation of the human voice, with the result that machines which analyze, improve and even simulate the voice have been invented. Who knows but that these men, joining hands with medical experts, some day may create artificial parts for the vocal system that will change the pitch and intensity of a person's voice?

The Vocoder, or voicecoder - the machine which changes your voice —first takes it to pieces, measures the pieces and then builds a new voice out of the electrical sounds. The raw material of speech is two streams of sound; proper variations of these streams give us speech. The first stream is characterized by three properties: a pitch determined by the fundamental frequency of vibration, an intensity determined by the sound power issuing from the mouth, and a quality determined by the relative amounts of sound power carried in fixed frequency bands. The second sound stream has no pitch, it is a noise and has an intensity and quality which vary as the stream proceeds.

The first sound stream. the buzz, is demonstrated in the Vocoder as a rich full note, like a muted automobile horn. From this note electrical filters pick out thirty different ranges of overtones covering the range of the human voice. The same filters also break down the second stream, called the hiss, into these thirty ranges. These different sounds in proper proportion form all the sounds of speech. Thus the machine analyzes a voice into thirty parts and then uses the results to control the proper amounts of each of the sounds before they reach the loud speaker. A shift in relative amounts may change one vowel into another.



Top, a subject tries out the electrical voice tester. Center, wind-driven generator helps recharge storage batteries at unattended amplifying station on transcontinental telephone line. Below is the Vocoder, which takes your voice apart and makes a new one from the pieces

2146 1

By manipulation of dials and switches, normal speech becomes a throaty whisper when the hiss is substituted for the buzz. While the hiss is relatively faint, it is essential in discriminating between "church" and "shirts."

Ordinarily the pitch issuing from the Vocoder moves up and down with the original coming from the speaker. If variation is prevented, the recreated speech is a monotone, like a chant. When the variation is cut in half, the voice seems flat and dragging. When the swings are twice normal, the voice seems more brilliant. The controls can be reversed so that high becomes low; a melody is then unrecognizable and speech has the odd lilt of Scandinavian tongues. Another control fixes the basic values of the recreated pitch; if this is "fluttered" by hand, the voice becomes that of an old person. By appropriate setting of the basic pitch the voice may be anything from low bass to high soprano. Thus the singer may sing a duet with himself, if the machine is set to produce a harmonizing pitch. The basic pitch control also may enable the speaker to sound like a father reprimanding his daughter, then the girl herself and finally the grandfather interceding. In one demonstration, a puffing locomotive is made to sound as though actually saying the words, "We'restarting-slow-ly-faster-fasterfaster." Or a church bell may say "Stop-stop-stop-don't-do-that." These tricks suggest uses for the Vocoder in creating artificial voices for radio and sound pictures. It appears to have possibilities as a tool in the investigation of speech, in developing privacy of communications or in reducing the frequency range required for telephonic transmission.

The machine which creates speech is the Voder. It consists of a small table with a dozen or more keys, a pedal, knobs and a bay of apparatus including vacuum tubes,

(Continued to page 125A)

### Exposure Meter for Radium Warns If Packing Is Unsafe



Meter keeps watch over stored radium, issuing a warning of danger if vault becomes "overloaded" or insulation is inadequate

Automatic warning is sounded by a radium exposure meter when the radiations from stored radium approach a point that is regarded as the limit of safety. Placed in a room where there is a vault in which radium is kept, the instrument will notify workers if the vault's lining gives inadequate protection, which may happen when more radium is stored than the vault is intended to hold. It will also indicate whether the necessary precautions have been taken in packing radium for shipment so persons handling it will be guarded against dangerous exposures. The warning device was developed by the Bureau of Standards in Washington.

### Sawtoothed Cutter Trims Lawn Edge on Forward or Backward Stroke

Lawn edges are trimmed neatly by a saw-toothed cutting tool turned by the friction of its hardwood roller on the sidewalk or sod. Its shears operate on both the backward and forward stroke. A tension spring holds the cutter against the stationary shearing blade.

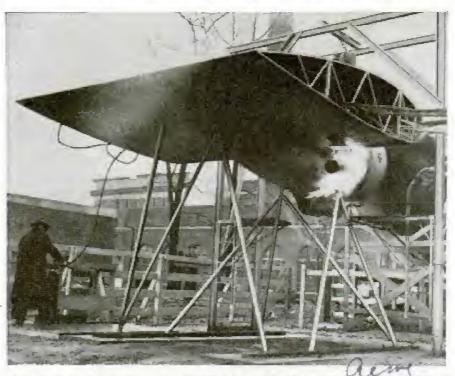


(IA Tahitian has patented a method of partly drying bananas without loss of essential juices and flavor, and, reduced to half their original size, wrapping them for shipment in a transparent film.

JUNE, 1940

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### Engine Fire in Wind Tunnel Promotes Safer Air Travel



Blazing aircraft engine was extinguished quickly by carbon-dioxide gas to demonstrate safeguards installed in pirplanes to defeat fire hazard

To develop safeguards against aircraft engine fires, engineers of the Civil Aeronautics Authority start an oil blaze in an airplane engine placed in a wind tunnel to simulate flying conditions. In a recent demonstration, two fire detectors mounted on the cowling behind the engine cylinders reported the presence of fire instantly by closing an electrical circuit and lighting a red bulb in the control room. After burning about twenty seconds the fire was put out in five seconds by carbon-dioxide gas, distributed around the engine by two tubular rings perforated with tiny holes. The gas was stored in a steel bottle in liquid form under high pressure. Tests of this kind help to develop detecting devices and fire-extinguishing apparatus, and to compare fire-resisting qualities of various aircraft construction materials.

in magnetic waves as far as five miles. Telephones could be stationed in the mine, with portable transmitters at various stations and a fixed transmitter on the surface.

### Model Trains Test Men for Jobs as Trolley Drivers

Before an applicant is given a job as motorman of a trolley car of the Cleveland Railway company he has to prove he can run a model electric train safely. The power cars of the miniature system are operated by the regulation controls and brakes of the street cars, and if the candidate can't avoid a crash on the tov line he lacks the judgment and quick reaction to drive a trolley.

Wireless Magnetic Telephones Aid Mine-Rescue Work

Telephone wires may be cut in a mine disaster, radio fails to penetrate earth to

any depth, but a wireless magnetic telephone system holds the promise of memtaining communications between rescuers and entombed miners when all other links are severed. The system uses a low-frequency signal which transmits the voice



If he is to win a job as motorman, the man at the control should have proved his aptitude by averting this accident on the model railway

### Planes 'Bomb' River to Find Thin Ice for Ships



Airplanes from the U. S. Coast Guard air station at Floyd Bennett field helped keep Hudson river channels open to shipping through the winter by conducting an aerial ice survey in cooperation with ice breakers. Flying over remote areas of the river, the planes dropped non-explosive "ice bombs" from an altitude of 500 feet to test the thickness of the ice. If the lead-filled missile broke the ice, it was thin enough to permit passage of a ship. The aerial ice-survey units also called on residents along the shores to aid in their work. Mimeo-

## Eighth Vitamin Is Synthesized as Pantothenic Acid

ground. Each block contained a blank reply form and a government franked envelope for mailing the report,

Of ten vitamins recognized thus far by science, eight have been successfully synthesized and the newest of this group, announced recently, is pantothenic acid. In nature this vitamin is widely distributed, found universally in all animal tissue, and it is believed that the synthesized product will be found highly valuable in nutrition. The exact field of usefulness for the vitamin has not been discovered.

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JUNE, 1940

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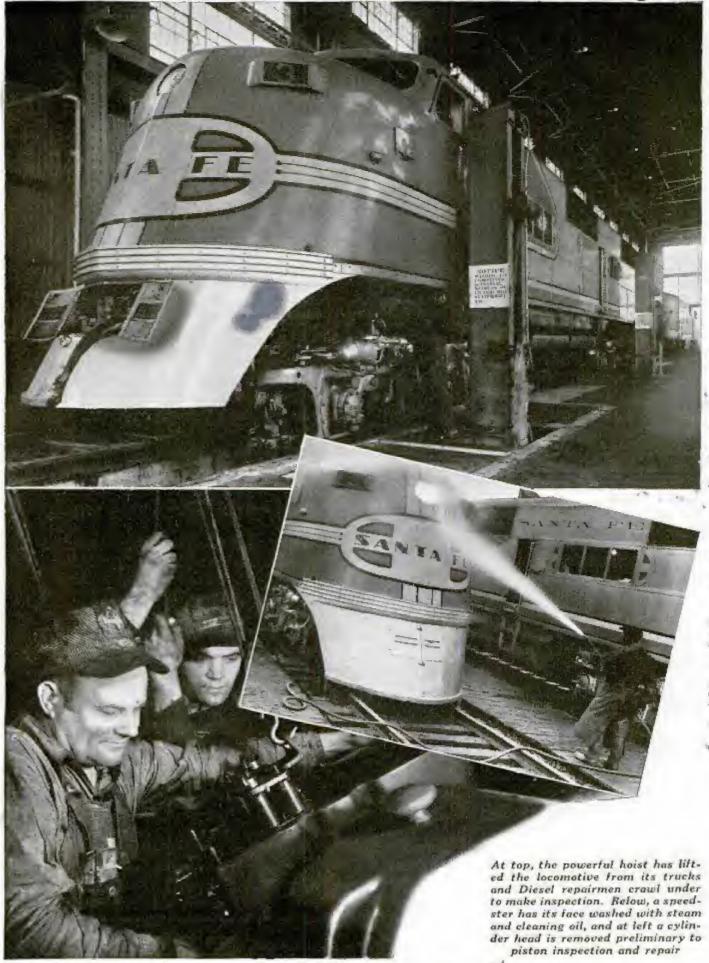
KEEPING the

HE Santa Fe Railway now introduces the rectangular roundhouse. Its growing fleet of Diesel-electric locomotives needed a home of their own; since they are physically no relation to the steam engines there was no reason for stabling them together in the roundhouse. So the new rectangular roundhouse at Chicago is a huge garage where the streamliners roll in over pits to be serviced. Giant "jacks" that can lift more than a half million pounds are stationed at the pits to hoist the 3,600-horsepower locomotives off their trucks, and overhead is a traveling crane capable of lifting ten tons on its high-speed hook or forty tons on its main hook. The crane is used to hoist engine cabs, or to remove engines or generators. From one repair track a pit extends sideways, tunneling into a repair shed; power trucks can be dropped into this pit, up-ended and rolled aside for overhauling. In a machine shop alongside the main 111 by 342-foot shed, wheels are ground smooth, air-conditioning units, electric equipment and other parts are repaired. The principal repairs necessary are the maintenance of cylinder liners, connecting rods, cylinder heads, valves, pistons and connecting bearings, replacement of worn wheels and traction motors and their bearings. Changing of lubricating oil in crankcases and the cleaning of oil and air filters is a routine job as with your own car.



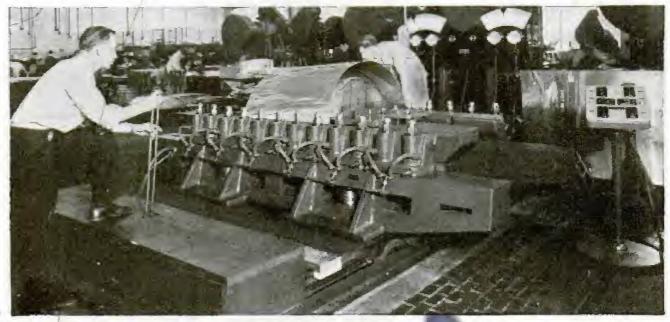
Diesel repairmen above, at left, remove piston assembly from 900-horsepower engine; right, roller bearings that smooth the streamliner's ride. Below, skilled lathe operator machines a pair of power wheels

# DIESELS Moving



JUNE, 1940

# Sheet Metal Stretched to Form Airplane 'Skin'



Hydraulic pressure applied to two cylinders under platen forces the form upward against sheet metal, stretching it into the shape of the form. Strong clamps grip the two ends of the sheet

Airplane "skins" and engine cowlings formerly shaped by hand tools and power hammers are now being formed by a hydraulic metal-stretching press, first of its kind in this country, put into operation recently at the Glenn L. Martin aircraft plant. It consists of two hydraulic cylinders under a platen on which the form

rests. A sheet of metal is placed over the form and its ends clamped tightly in two rows of jaws. When pressure is applied the platen is forced upward, stretching the sheet until it hugs the form tightly. The operation takes but a few minutes, during which the sheet, in taking its new form loses five to seven per cent in thickness.

### Ghostlike Car with 'X-Ray' Body Reveals Working Parts

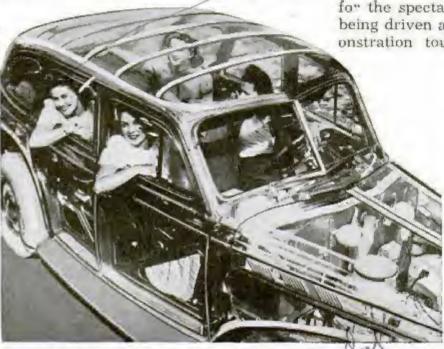
To show the public what its cars are made of, one automobile manufacturer inclosed a 1940 model in a body of glass and transparent plastic. Its engine, working mechanism and framing structure thus have been converted into "an open book" for the spectator. The car, which is now being driven about the country on a demonstration tour, carries passengers who

enjoy vision in all directions through the "allwindow" body.

Two Crops Grown

#### Two Crops Grown in 'Soilless Garden' at the Same Time

Growing corn and potatoes simultaneously in the same tank is the latest development in hydroponics, or "soilless farming." Similar multiple cropping has been accomplished with such combinations as potatoes, tomatoes and celery; and



Automobile inclosed in transparent body exhibits structural bracing and mechanical features, also giving passengers unrestricted vision

POPULAR MECHANICS

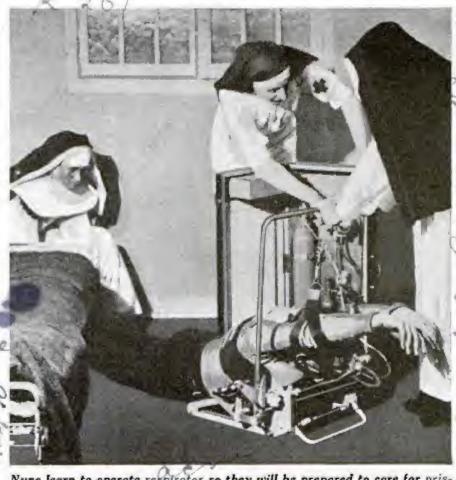
daffodils, godetias, gladioli and chrysanthemums. The plants are kept out of each other's way through differences in height, varying harvesting times, and sometimes a little pruning. The potatoes and corn were planted in a basin having a surface area of 1/220 of an acre, yielding a harvest of 6.8 bushels of potatoes, and 1.11 bushels of corn. This is equivalent to getting 1,496 bushels of potatoes and 224.2 bushels of corn from one acre.

de Willeam

### "Blotter" for Drying Concrete Forms Smooth Surface

Government engineers have found a simple and inexpensive method of N drying the concrete spillways of giant dams toproduce a smooth, hard surface. They use "blot-" ting" paper. Highly absorbent fiber board is unrolled over the soft concrete, drawing out the moisture and letting air bubbles escape. This lets the concrete dry evenly and leaves an unusually hard, smooth and wearresistant surface.

# Bomb Shelters in Paris Jails Prepare to Aid Gas Victims



Nuns learn to operate respirator so they will be prepared to care for prisoners who may fall victim to gas attacks of enemy warplanes over Paris

Precautions have been taken in Paris prisons, as in the city proper, to protect inmates during wartime aerial attacks. When the alarm warns of enemy bombers, the prisoners follow prearranged directions for an orderly descent into their air-raid shelters, where provisions have been made for the care of casualties. Respirators are ready for emergency treatment of gas victims, and nurses have been trained to operate them.

### "Bobsled" Tests Waxed Floor to Eliminate Skid Hazard



Effort required to pull 100-pound weight on "bobsled" over waxed surface is read on spring scale

In an effort to reduce the hazard of falls on slippery floors, a Westinghouse engineer has devised a "bobsled" test for waxed surfaces. The little robot that takes the falls for you is an eight-inch wood base resting on three leather runners like those of a bobsled. A hundred-pound weight is placed on it, and the sled is pulled by a spring balance across a waxed surface. Thus the amount of pressure required to start it and keep it slipping is easily read.

■Nearly forty per cent of all traffic accident victims in 1939 were pedestrians.

Francles news

21266

# The WORLD'S



By P. W. Litchfield

President, The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co.

BACK of the tremendous advance in almost every field in the last century is the work of men who have devoted their efforts toward harnessing for man's benefit the properties of one of nature's most curious substances—rubber.

Rubber has played an important part in making possible numerous things we regard as necessities. An outstanding characteristic of our modern civilization is fast transportation of masses of people and materials. Across many thousands of paved highways and streets speed millions of passenger cars, buses and trucks. Air lines reach out to greater distances as the speed and safety of flight increase. Great ocean





POPULAR MECHANICS

Top, giant breather bag used in petroleum industry to reduce evaporation losses. Bottom, left, machine employed in testing new type of rubber-and-tabric balls used in sports. These balls discard the traditional leather covering. Right, huge tire used on earth-moving machinery

12.56

# SHOCK ABSORBER

liners have crowded sailing ships from the seas.

It is likewise characteristic that the materials used in the manufacture of these units of transportation are available in mass quantities—that we fully employ and enjoy the boons of the Bessemer and parallel processes.

In this connection we cannot overlook our systems of communication. These implements of modern civilization grew out of the genius of Bell, Marconi and kindred intellects. They serve us in a million ways and closely knit together geographically scattered units of modern civilization. Another phase of modern living combines the elements of prophylaxy, hygiene and sanitation. Behind a protecting shield conceived by Pasteur, Lister and many others, the span of modern life has been extended, we live in greater safety and we live in better health.



JUNE, 1940





Ten photes and sketch courtesy Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co.

of pneumatic cushions made from rubber. The giant ocean liner is served in numerous essential respects by devices of rubber.

In the field of communication, as in all functions of the electrical impulse, insulating properties of rubber are indispensable.

> There could be no system of sanitation without rubber gaskets, and a scalpel in the hands of the most highly skilled surgeon is a deadly blunderbuss unless the hands are covered by sterilized rubber gloves.

All this has been made possible by the discovery, 100 years ago, of the process of vulcanization by Charles Goodyear, Prior efforts to make rubber useful to mankind had met with discouraging results. Regardless of the compounds with which it was mixed, the rubber

grew hard and brittle in winter, became sticky in summer, seemed destined to remain on the outer fringe of commodities beneficial to the human race. Application of heat to a mixture of rubber and sulphur yielded the secret for which Goodyear had been searching, resulted in a product that maintained its sturdy resiliency through heat and cold. From the crude rubbercoated fabrics and other articles of that day have sprung thousands of uses for

Top, left, Airfoam rubber mattress introduces new sleeping comfort. Right, rubberized fab-ric boat useful to sportsmen. Below, sketch showing same of the point's at which rubber is used in the automobile. Right, curtain made by heat-sealing rubberized material

These characteristicstransportation, mass production, communication and mass hygiene-were not created by rubber. But in each instance rubber is the fluxing material

without which they would be either totally impossible or tremendously restricted.

The fast motor under the hood of the modern car may perform its function only because it exerts its power through the cushioning and traction qualities of the modern tire. And there are more than 200 rubber parts in the modern motor car aside from the tires. The plane's takeoff and landing are safely accomplished by the aid rubber, with more being added to the list each passing year.

91256

When the word "rubber" is mentioned, the average man thinks of tires. This is a natural reaction, for during the past forty years the pneumatic tire has steadily reduced the cost and increased the comfort of automobile transportation. Today, many different types of tires are available to do as many different types of jobs. The huge tractor-trailer units that convey heavy loads at high speeds over long distances need tires that withstand the terrific heat generated in that type of service. The light delivery truck needs tires that will give long tread wear through hundreds of starts and grinding stops each day. The earthmoving vehicle needs traction that will get it through the sand and mud of a construction job. The airplane tire must be able to withstand the terrific shocks of landing.

Passenger and truck tires quite naturally have accounted for the bulk of the world's consumption of rubber products up to this time. But the future will witness great expansion in other directions. It seems that the rubber industry stands on the threshold of an era of vastly multiplied usefulness to civilization.

The modern automobile includes almost as many pounds of rubber, aside from the tires, as the tires weigh. This includes radiator hose, fan belts, engine mountings, floor mats, seat cushions and many other parts. Rubber is being brought into ever increasing use by the designers of the modern streamline trains.

Mattresses, cushions and upholstering made from beaten and molded latex are just now coming on the market. With their superior cushioning qualities, their comparative lack of weight and bulk, and the advantages they offer by reason of their being verminproof, it is indicated that a new market of vast potentialities is now being tapped.

The two-mile long conveyor belt which transports 48,000 tons of crushed rock each day to the base of Grand Coulee dam is prophetic of the future use of rubber in mining and similar operations.

Plastics and many other materials derived from latex are in the immediate offing. There are wide possibilities for the use of rubber to compensate for irregularities in dealing with rigid materials.

There is no other material that will so (Continued to page 123A)

Folding Top for Table Tennis Fits on Card Table



Folding table top, smaller than standard size tennis table, permits game to be played in close quarters

For playing table tennis in homes where lack of space makes it impossible to use a full-size table, a folding top that opens to seventy-two by twenty-four inches will fit on either one or two card tables and provides a hard playing surface that is said to give the ball a good bounce. Made of non-warping material, the board measures twenty-four by thirty-six inches folded.

#### Electric Stove Fits Travel Case

Small enough to carry in an overnight bag or brief case, an electric stove for travel has a six-inch heating plate, thermostatically controlled from high to very low heat, and is only one and one-half inches deep when its legs are folded. Operating on alternating current, it is handy for camp, hotel or office and for use of doctors on emergency calls.



Only one and one-half inches deep when the legs are folded, this stove serves many purposes

Cheples appleauss

### FootRegulatedCoilWinder Insures Uniform Tension



With foot on treadle operator can govern rotation of reel to assure uniform tension of finished coil

Constant wire tension is maintained by a coil winder equipped with a foot lever that controls its speed. It can be operated at 120 to 650 revolutions per minute, an automatic counter recording the number of turns on a dial either forward or in reverse. A pilot light shines when the motor is running, and there is a handwheel to permit removal of a few coils from the winding if needed.

### New 1924 Car Costing \$1,685 Brings Only \$40 Today

Forgetting the "frosting" of mere styling and appearance, how would a new automobile of fifteen or twenty years ago—kept "under glass" since it emerged from the factory—compare with a modern car in performance? A Chicago man had a practical answer to the question the other day when he bought from a friend a car that had cost \$1,685 new in 1924. The original owner had driven it only four and a half

miles, became ill, put it in a garage under good protection for sixteen years, then sold it for \$40. Only technical advances had intervened to reduce its value. The car has an engine about the same size as engines today, yet without modern hill-climbing power, pick-up and economy. It lacks four-wheel brakes, balloon tires and safety glass, has no automatic choke, fuel pump, crankcase ventilation, shock absorbers, air cleaner nor oil filter, no steel top, nor has it the headlight power and trunk capacity of today's automobiles.

#### Carpet You Can See in the Dark Illuminates Theater Aisle

Theater patrons will find it easier to walk down unlighted aisles which are carpeted with a fluorescent floor covering introduced recently. When the lights are switched off, invisible "black light" causes the carpet to glow brightly as though it were woven with luminous yarns.

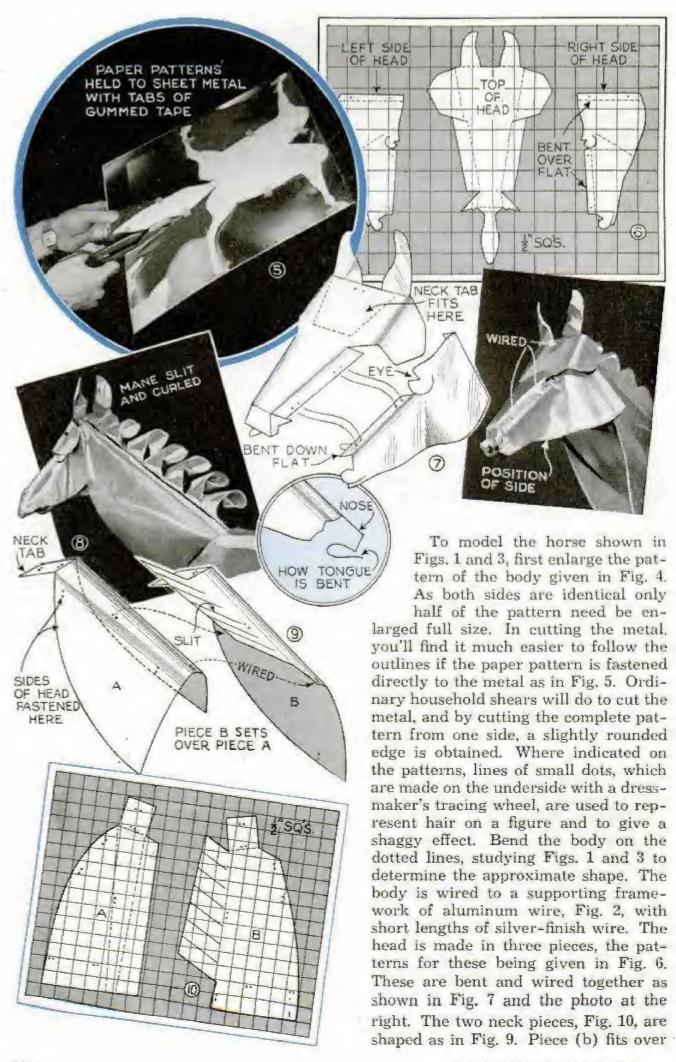


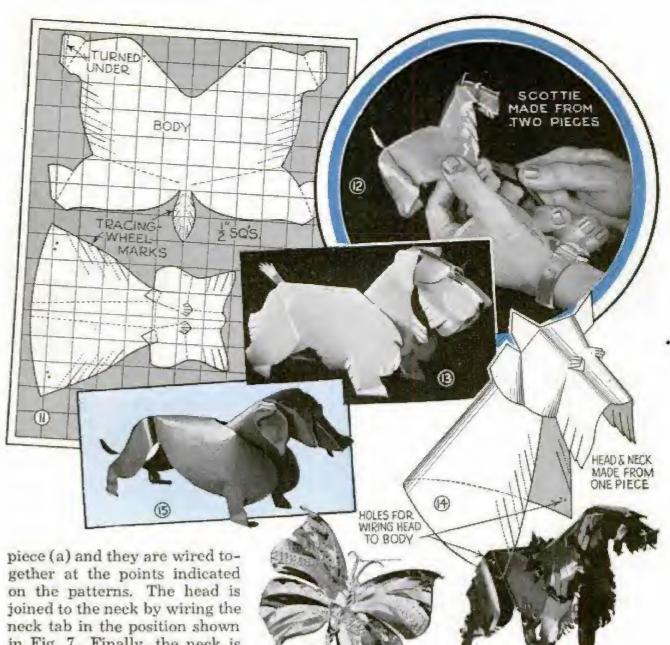


Top, fluorescent carpet as you would see it in darkened theater, and bottom view shows it with lights on









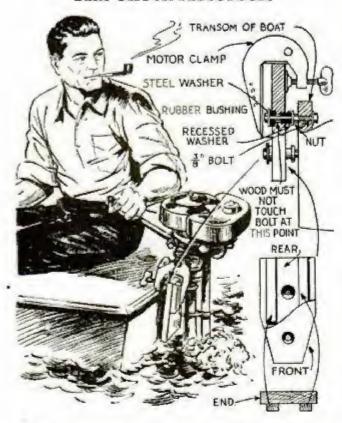
gether at the points indicated on the patterns. The head is joined to the neck by wiring the neck tab in the position shown in Fig. 7. Finally, the neck is wired to the body at the shoulders, after which the slits in the mane are curled as in Fig. 8. The feet are formed by simply turning the metal under at right angles.

The body of the Scottie dog, shown in Figs. 11 and 12, is similarly bent to shape, but does not require a wire framework, Fig. 11 gives the pattern for the onepiece head and neck, which is bent on the dotted lines to look like Fig. 14. The figure is completed by fitting the neck between the V-cut in the body and fastening with wire at each side. Finger marks can be removed with metal polish. Figs. 13 to 18 inclusive, with the exception of Fig. 14, show other examples which can be reproduced.



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#### Outboard-Motor Mounting Block Has Shock Absorbers



This auxiliary mounting block for an outboard motor reduces vibration to a minimum and protects the transom of your boat. As shown in the drawing, the block is attached to the transom by means of bolts, which are mounted in the block with rubber bushings. These are of the type used in the front motor mounting of model-A Fords, and can be obtained at auto-supply stores. A mounting board of the type described will support motors weighing up to 50 lbs. Heavier motors will require sturdier construction.

#### Abrasive Disks Held on Sander with Linoleum Cement

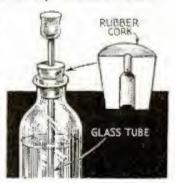
Of the many adhesives for attaching abrasives to a disk sander, I find that ordinary waterproof linoleum cement, which



is inexpensive, is very satisfactory for the purpose. It can be spread on the disk with a knife and dries rapidly so the sander can be used soon after applying the abrasive.—Kenneth Murray, Colon, Mich.

#### Two-Size Hole in Bottle Stopper Protects Laboratory Glassware

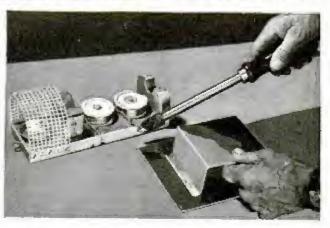
By drilling a rubber cork or stopper as shown, to accommodate a thermometer or thistle tube, the latter can be inserted and removed with little possibility of



breaking them. The diameter of the small part of the hole is sufficient to provide a seal around the tube, yet the short depth of this portion reduces friction, which is often responsible for breaking the glass.

#### Holder Keeps Soldering Iron and Accessories Handy

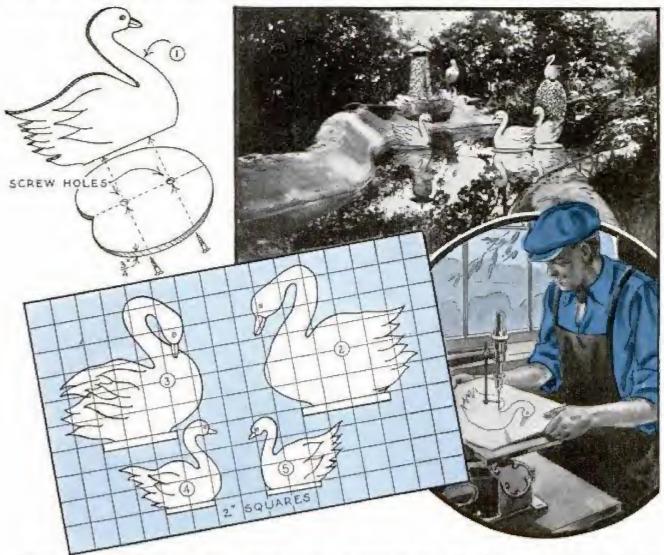
Your solder, flux and iron are always together as a unit in this holder. Spools of solder are kept on short projecting dowels, and the ends of the solder are run



through screw eyes at one side of the holder where the hot iron can be pressed against them. The iron itself is supported on two brackets, and the point is shielded by a strip of wire mesh curved over it and fastened to the sides of the holder.

¶A smooth paste made of whiting and lemon juice is a good cleaner for bone or ivory cutlery handles. Allow the paste to dry for a few minutes on the handles before rinsing and polishing.

## Swan Cutouts Enhance the Garden Fish Pool



Floating gracefully on the surface of your fish pool, these cutouts of stately swans add much to its appearance. They are sawed from solid wood—not plywood—to the shapes given, and the floats are cut to resemble water lilies. The floats for the cutouts in Figs. 1, 2 and 3 should be 34 in. thick and about 8½ in. across at the

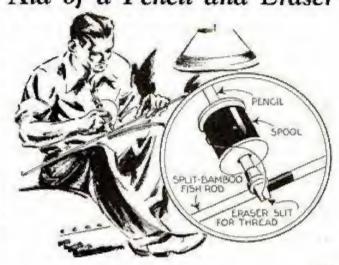
widest point. Wood ½ in. thick will do for the floats on the smaller cutouts in Figs. 4 and 5. These are about 6½ in. wide. Paint the swans all white with bright yellow beaks and black eyes and outline the wings with black. Paint the floats green and fasten the swans to them with wood screws.

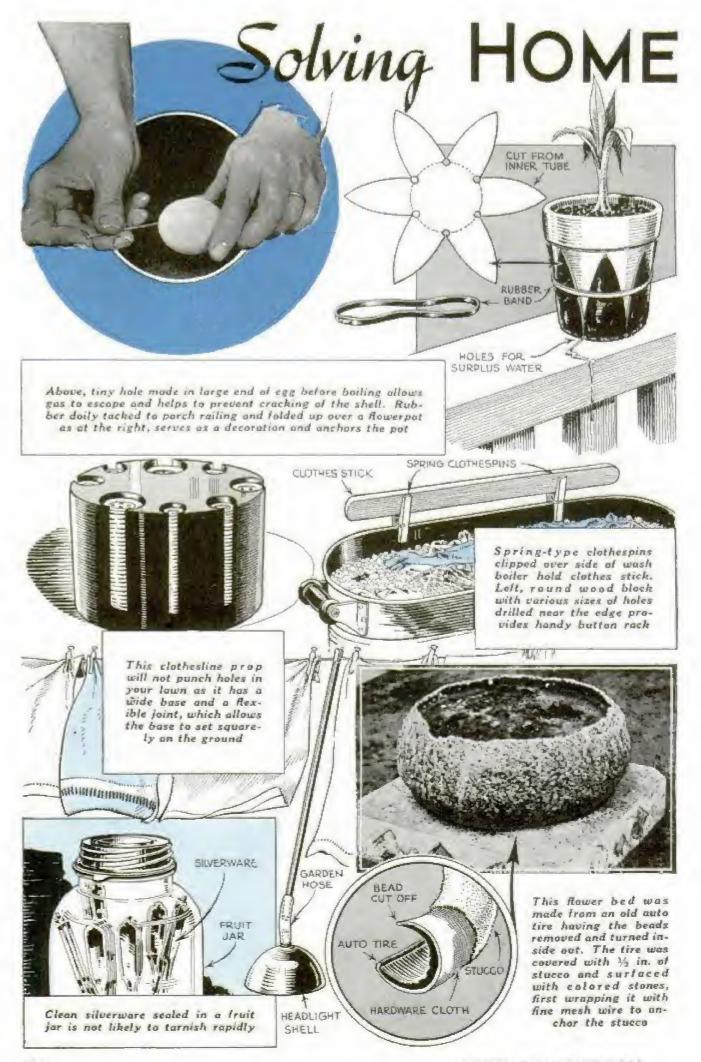
-Adelaide Blanton, New Albany, Ind.

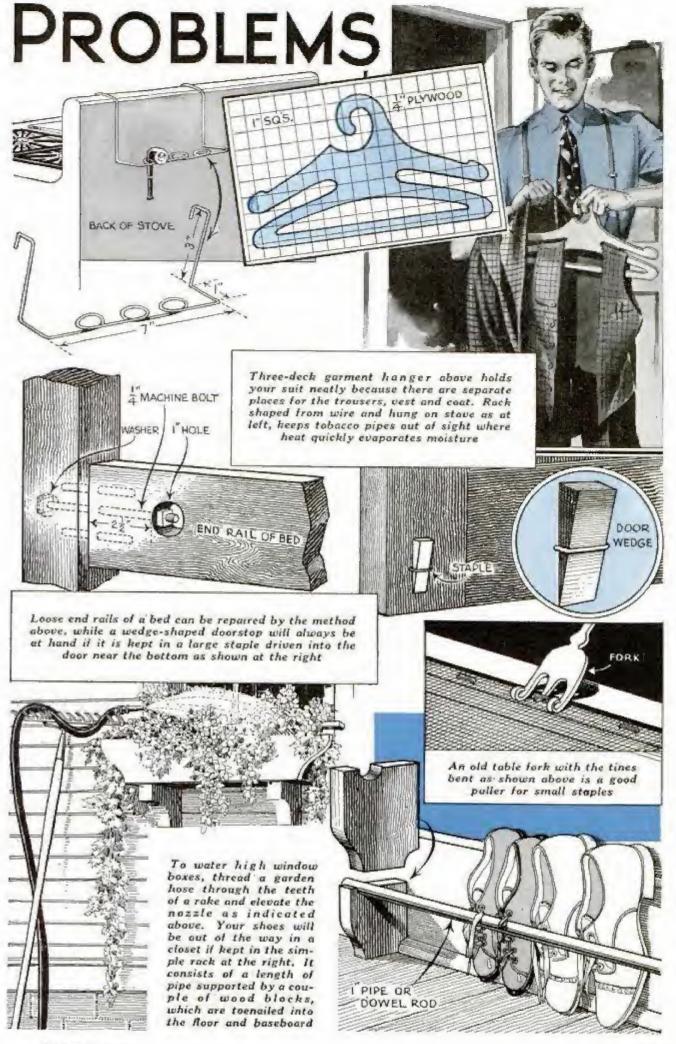
## Fishing Rod Wrapped with Aid of a Pencil and Eraser

To apply a tight, smooth wrapping of thread when making repairs on a splitbamboo fishing rod, one angler suggests the use of a pencil and eraser. The pencil carries the spool of thread so that it may be rotated easily around the rod, and the eraser is slit to receive the thread and hold it tightly during the operation.

(ITo dispel a moldy smell in bookcases and clothes closets caused by damp weather, sprinkle a few drops of oil of lavender on the shelves.







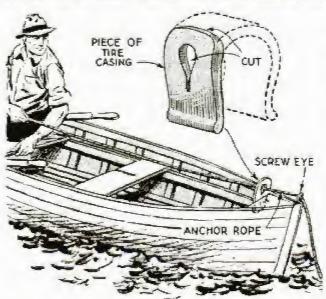
#### Baby Carriage Kept on Porch by Broom Clamp



When you leave a small baby in a carriage on the porch for an airing, a broom clamp screwed to the wall to grip the handle is a further safety precaution in addition to the brake. This is especially true if there are small children who might, in playing, release the brake.

#### Boat Anchor Raised from Seat with Aid of Rope Holder

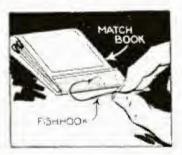
Use this holder for the anchor rope on your rowboat and the anchor can be raised or lowered from the seat. The holder is



cut to the shape shown from a piece of auto-tire casing. The rope is first run through a large screw eye on the end of the boat and then through the holder. Raising the rope allows it to slide freely through the holder, and lowering it causes the holder to grip it securely.

#### Scratching Surface of Match Book Points Fishhooks

If hooks used for trout and other small game fish are dulled against submerged rocks and pebbles, just rub the pointed ends across the scratching surface



of a book of matches. This abrasive surface will restore the point quickly.

#### Re-Gluing Loose Veneer Tops



When veneer or thin material is glued to a table top and it loosens in places, we reglue it as follows: From the underside of the table directly under the spot where the

material has loosened, a hole is drilled through to the underside of the material. Then adhesive is forced through the hole, which is then sealed tightly with a dowel. —Paul Adams, Loma Linda, Calif.

#### Grinder Dust for Potted Plants

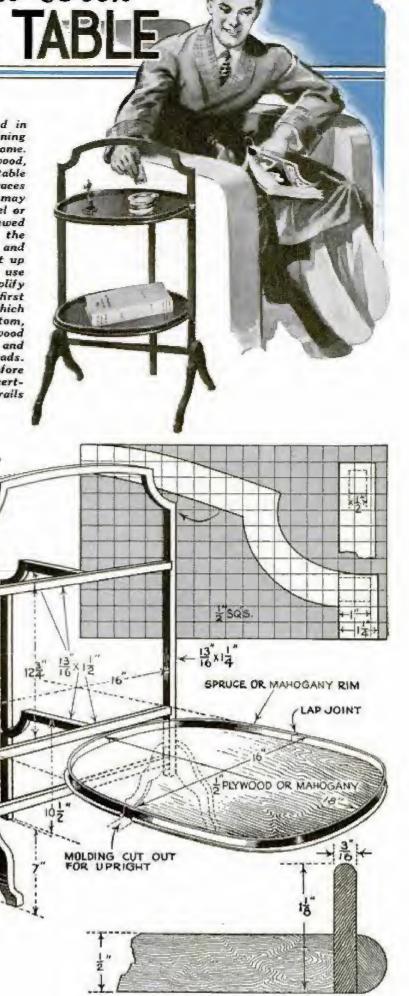
Instead of inserting nails or bits of iron into the soil of potted plants to provide a supply of iron, use dust that has collected about a grinding wheel. This is composed largely of iron and steel in finely divided form, which



is readily taken up by the soil and supplied to the plants.—W.C. Wilhite, Carlinville, Ill.



Grace and utility are pleasingly combined in this dainty, chairside table to provide a refining touch to the decorative scheme of any home. Although it can be made of any hardwood, walnut or mahogany are the two most suitable woods to use. The curved handle and braces of the table are cut from 5-in. stock and may be joined to the uprights with either dowel or tenon joints. The arch-shaped legs are screwed to the face of the uprights, after which the screw heads are covered with wood plugs and sanded flush. While the trays can be built up around glued-up panels of solid stock, the use of 1/2-in. veneer-faced plywood will simplify the work. The tray edges are formed by first bending steamed strips around a form, which conforms with the shape of the tray bottom, and then nailing, when dry, to the plywood edge. A narrow half-round molding, bent and glued to the lower edge, conceals the nail heads. Finish the table with stain and wax, before fastening the trays in place with screws inserted in counterbored holes made in the cross rails



XI DOWELS

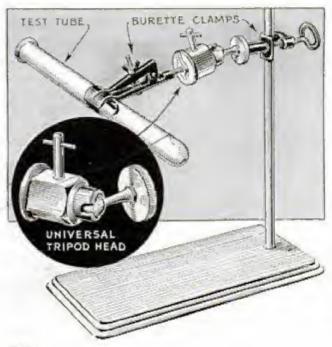
#### T-Square with Two Tacks in Head Serves as Armrest for Artist



When working on drawings, lettering, etc., that may be soiled easily, a handy armrest to avoid this can be made from your T-square. Just drive a couple of thumbtacks in the underside of the head as indicated in the detail. The tack heads serve as gliders on which the square may be moved about easily over the work.

# Tripod Head Does Double Duty in Chemical Laboratory

In my amateur chemical laboratory, I use my universal camera tripod head in



conjunction with two burette clamps to support test tubes and other glassware at any desired angle. The threads of the tripod head will take those of the clamps.

—George Vias, Chicago.

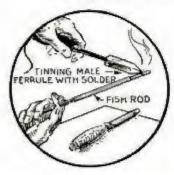
#### Match Book on Cigarette Package Is Always at Hand

Disliking to hunt through various pockets for a book of matches, one smoker solved the problem by attaching the matches right to the package of cigarettes. A narrow strip of adhesive



tape was used to attach the book of matches, as shown in the photograph.

#### Worn Ferrules of Fishing Rods Repaired with Solder



If ferrules on a fishing rod have worn so that the rod comes apart when in use, they can be repaired by simply coating the plug part of each ferrule with solder. Apply a light

coating and then smooth it down with fine emery paper so it will fit snugly.

#### Tape on Your Finger Starts Nuts in Hard-to-Reach Places

On various assembling jobs where space does not permit inserting the hand to start a nut on a small bolt, one workman does the job with the aid of a piece of adhesive tape on one finger.



The tendency of the nut to adhere to the tape enables one to hold it against the bolt, which is then turned to screw the nut on.



THIN plastics in all the colors offer the craftsman and small production shop owner a medium that lends itself admirably to modern design. Thicknesses run from slightly under 1/14 in. to 1/16 in. The large sheets or rolls available and the thinness of the material, make it ideal and practical for many purposes. The material is purchased by weight or by the square foot, the cost being about the same as a fine grade of wood veneer.

Working with thin plastics follows the same general routine used for heavy plastics, with the exception that buffing and polishing are seldom necessary. The material can be bent to almost any shape after dipping it in boiling water, as shown in Fig. 2. The sheet can be bent around any suitable form, as in Fig. 4, and will retain its shape when cool. A typical project showing the application of the bent sheet is the window cornice in Fig. 1.

Shades for round hall and porch lamps are easily made by simply snapping a strip of the material inside the framework, as in Fig. 5. For permanence, the seam can be glued with the acid cement used in plastic work, or with any other type of glue. Fig. 3 shows a cylindrical lampshade being glued. The plastic for this type of work is generally about 1/44 in. thick and can be cut with





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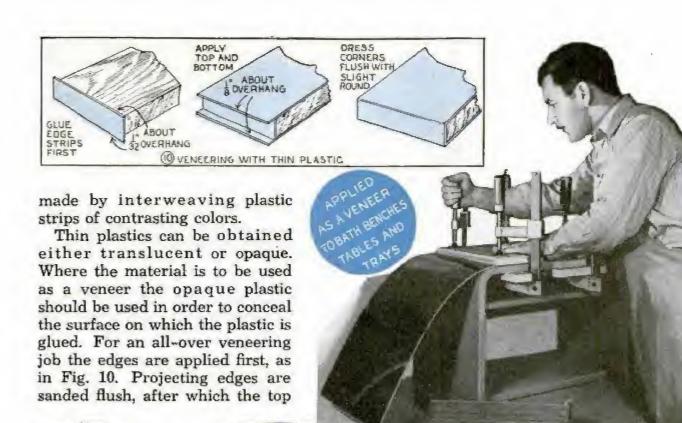


a pair of scissors. Heavier stock can be cut on a circular saw or band saw, using the same cutting edge as for wood.

A neat project utilizing the heavier plastic is the fire screen shown in Fig. 7. This is partly framed with wood in order to give the 1/19-in. thick plastic sufficient rigidity. With a full-bound frame of wood or metal, thinner plastic could be used. The construction details are shown at the left of Fig. 7. Fig. 8 shows the silhouette design being applied by a spray gun, working through a paper stencil. One side of thinnest plastics is highly polished while the



should be applied to the mat side as better adhesion will result. Ground or sandblasted designs work out very well and can be worked on either side of the plastic. Table mats with a simple ground border are shown in Fig.



GUMMED CLOTH TAPE

WIRE.

PLASTICON

SOCKETS MOUNTED

SCONSTRUCTION OF

SHADES AND LIGHTING FIXTURES

PLASTIC

and bottom pieces are applied. A slight bevel at the edges makes the joint almost invisible. Fig. 11 shows the top of a bath bench being veneered. No edging was used on this job. The material is ideal for table tops, serving trays, etc., as it is proof against liquids, cigarette burns, and can be cleaned in an instant with a damp rag.

Translucent plastic is the type to use for lighting fixtures, indoors or out, wherever a flexible colored "glass" is required. Figs. 12 and 14 show a lampshade made by laminating three pieces of plastic together in steps to produce a three-tone effect. Figs. 13 and 15 show a corner light, which is typical of many excellent lighting units. Where the work does not require bending, as a straight piece of colored plastic in an illuminated house number, the material should be 1/2 in, or more in thickness. Thin plastics are quite rigid and somewhat brittle when cold and always should be worked in a warm room. A rag saturated with boiling water should be applied to the line of cut before sawing. Where an especially flexible material is required, thin plastics with a celluloid base should be used. A celluloid base plastic can be bent double without cracking.

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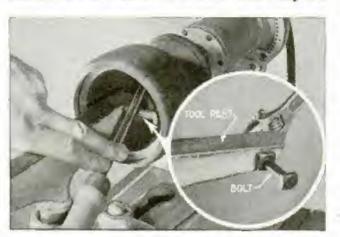
#### Artist Wears Two-Finger Glove to Prevent Soiling Work



One artist wears a glove with the thumb and first fingers removed to prevent the hands from soiling the work. It is best to prepare two or three gloves in this manner so that you will always have one to wear while the others are being washed.

#### Bolt Improves Lathe Tool Rest When Boring Bowls and Vases

Located near one end of a tool rest of a woodturning lathe, as shown in the circular detail, a bolt improves the rest when boring out bowls and vases. The rest can be inserted into the work and the tool rested on the bolt. The bolt hole may be

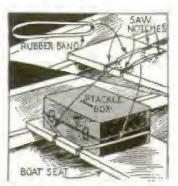


tapped if desired, but in most cases locking the bolt in place with a nut on each side of the rest will be sufficient.

-Howard R. Heydorf, Missoula, Mont.

#### Fishing-Tackle Box Held on Seat of Boat by Rubber Bands

To keep your fishing tackle on the boat seat beside you, just saw two notches in the front and rear edges of the seat to take stout rubber bands as indicated. Then set the



box on the seat, slip the bands up over the ends and the box will be held securely.

#### Grass Shears Are Carried Safely on Lawnmower Handle



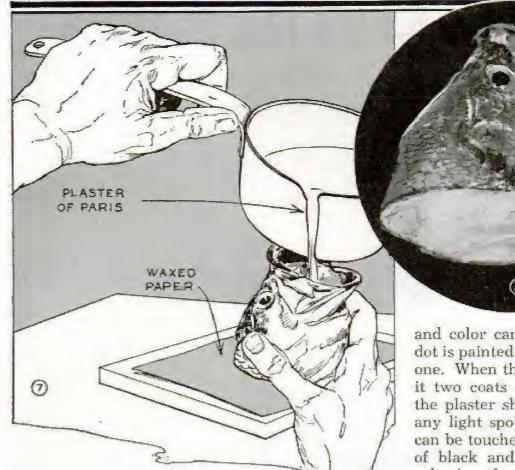
Fasten your grass shears to the lawnmower handle and they will always be at hand when needed. A wide rubber band cut from an inner tube and slipped over the handle as shown will hold the shears.

#### Fuller Ball Keeps Bail of Bucket in Vertical Position

Slit along one side to fit over the wire bail of a paint bucket, a fuller ball will support the bail vertically by resting against the rim of the bucket as shown in the drawing.







has dried, the head is given a coat of quickdrying clear varnish, which is repeated in a few hours. As soon as the second coat of varnish is dry, the head is ready for a base, which can be made of plaster of paris.

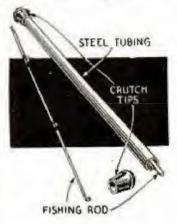
Twist a 3-in, length of small wire to the backbone in a position where it won't show, but so it will go into the base material. The head is then placed on a piece of waxed paper on a flat surface and the plaster of paris is poured in through the mouth, Fig. 7. When the plaster is about ½ to ¾ in. deep, it is spread out on the inside and smoothed up on the outside in any place where it pushed through. If the head was cut off too short and no skin was left to cover the back of the neck, the plastic material is built up to fill these places. When the plaster is almost dry, artificial scales are worked in with a sharp instrument to make it look natural. Place a small piece of plaster for the tongue as this improves the inside of the mouth. The name and date can be cut before the plaster gets hard, either inside the mouth or on the back of the base.

Fill the eye holes with the same base material and set the eyes in this. Artificial glass eyes are not expensive and make a neater job, but buttons of the proper size and color can be used if a black dot is painted in the center of each one. When the plastic is dry, give it two coats of clear varnish. If the plaster shows, or if there are any light spots on the head, they can be touched up with a mixture of black and medium-brown oil color in a few drops of clear varnish to match the rest of the fish.

Don't forget to paint around the eyes. Next, mix a little medium-green in oil with varnish and apply this as dots with a small piece of cotton on a stick. While still damp rub over this with a cloth that will not shed lint, to give it a natural greenish color. The inside of the mouth is rubbed with a light flesh color in varnish. The tongue and the surfaces around the teeth are painted with a darker flesh color to brighten up the inside of the mouth. Fig. 8 shows the completed head.

#### Steel-Tube Case for Fishing Rod

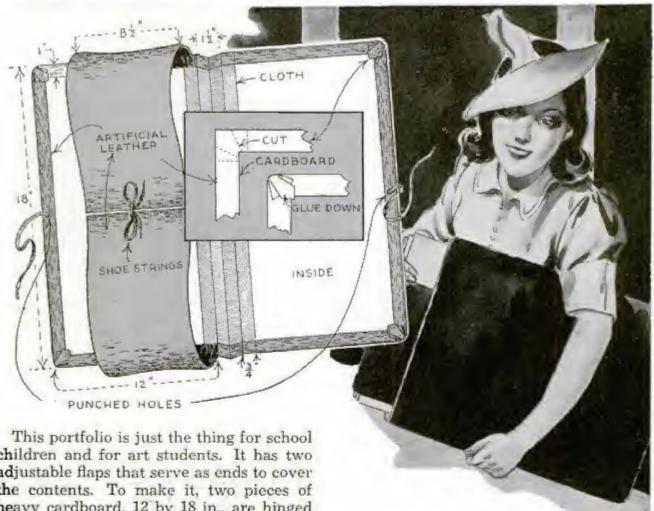
Fishing rods of the one-piece type may be protected against rough handling by inserting them into a length of thin-wall steel tubing. These are cut to the required length and both ends are closed with rubber crutch tips, which may be



purchased at a dime store.

-John C. Michalek, Kansas City, Mo.

# Inexpensive Portfolio Has Adjustable Ends

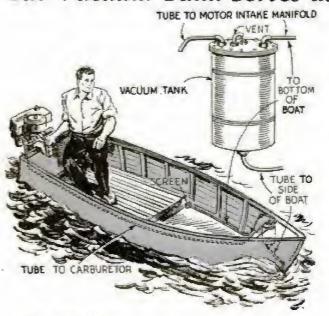


This portfolio is just the thing for school children and for art students. It has two adjustable flaps that serve as ends to cover the contents. To make it, two pieces of heavy cardboard, 12 by 18 in., are hinged together lengthwise with a strip of cloth. Then artificial leather is glued to the outer surfaces of the cardboard, taking care to smooth the leather to avoid wrinkles. The leather is folded over the edges of the cardboard and cemented to a portion of the inner surfaces as indicated, to give a good

job. The flaps of artificial leather are then glued in place to the inner surfaces, and a shoestring is provided for tying them together. A shoestring is also used as a fastener to keep the portfolio closed.

—R. L. Fairall, Los Angeles, Calif.

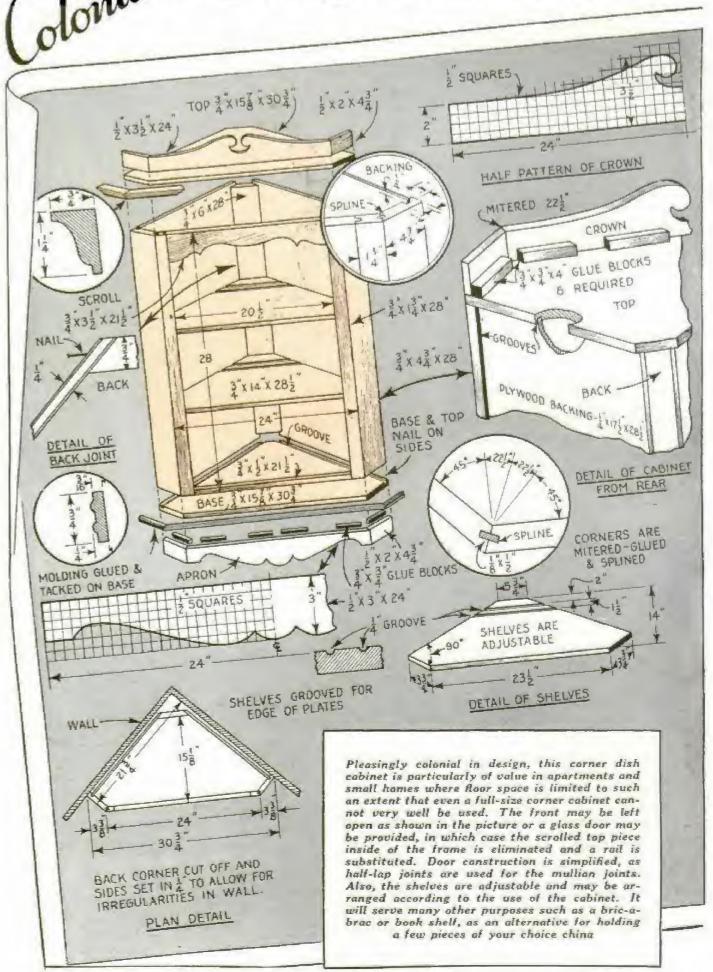
## Car Vacuum Tank Serves as Bilge Pump on Small Boat

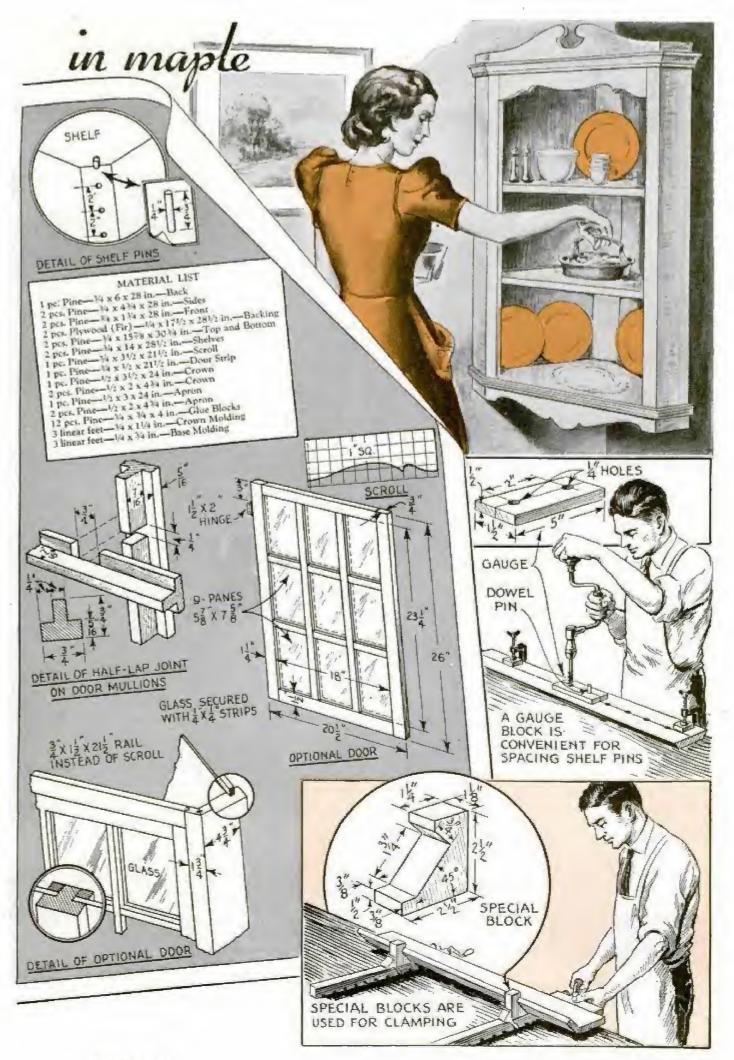


Connected to an outboard motor, a vacuum tank from an old car will serve as a bilge pump on small boats. Operation of the tank on the boat is the same as it was on the car, except that it handles water instead of gasoline. The vacuum line of the tank is connected to intake of the motor, and the line that formerly carried gasoline from the car tank is run to the bottom of the boat. The outlet line, which comes out the bottom of the tank, goes out through the side of the boat above the waterline. This makes it necessary that the tank be mounted high enough in the boat to permit the line to come out as indicated.

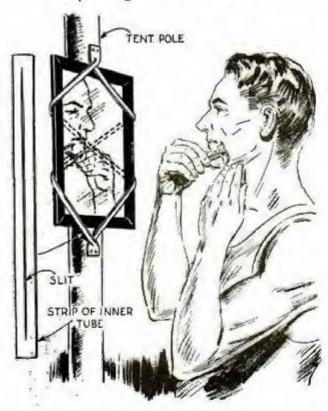
-Arnold Austin, Janesville, Wis.

# Colonial CORNER DISH SHELF





#### Mirror Held Safely on Tent Pole by Strip of Inner Tube



To support a mirror on the pole of his tent, a sportsman slit a strip of inner tube and used it as shown. Unlike hooks often used for this purpose, the strip need not be removed when the tent is packed.

#### Doorstop Made from Spring

Shaped as shown and screwed to a door near the lower edge, a short length of clock spring provides a good doorstop. The spring must be located so that it will act as a fric-



tion catch when it engages a door bumper screwed to the wall.—A. E. Ogren, Chicago.

#### Loop in End of Line to Change Fishhooks Easily



When it is necessary to change hooks or plugs frequently while fishing, the following kink will save time: Double the line at the end and tie it in a knot, forming a loop large enough for the hook or plug to slip through. Then thread the loop through the eye of a hook, pass the hook through the loop as indicated, and draw the line tightly.

#### Acids Filtered Through Funnel

Strong acids and alkalies that would destroy paper filters can be filtered through a slurry of water and asbestos fibers placed in a glass funnel. A glass marble keeps the slurry out of the funnel neck. After the slurry has



dried, acids can be poured into the funnel to filter through the fibers. In some cases, the fluffy thermal insulation used in houses can be substituted for the asbestos.

#### Salt Removes Starch from Iron



When ironing starched clothes, the starch has a tendency to collect on the iron. It can be removed quickly and easily by rubbing the hot iron over a piece of brown paper on

which salt has been sprinkled.

-William Swallow, Brooklyn, N. Y.

## Rack for Collapsible Tubes

This rack is just the thing for collapsible tubes containing many preparations that are kept around the home. It is made by notching the inner surfaces on the jaws of spring-type clothespins, the



handles of which are screwed to a strip of wood, the latter being attached to a wall or inside a cupboard door out of the way.



#### Small Articles Are Dry-Cleaned in a Fruit Jar



A fruit jar is handy when dry-cleaning neckties, ribbons and other small articles. Just pour the cleaning liquid in the jar, insert the article to be cleaned and screw on the lid tightly, using a rubber ring under it. Then shake the jar. This method saves cleaning fluid and assures a good job.

#### Vine Trellis from Notched Picket



Notched along the edges and driven into the ground, a picket provides a simple, neat trellis for single vine or climbing rose. The staggered notches will support the vine without tying.

#### Car Rim Filled with Concrete Provides Good Cistern Cover

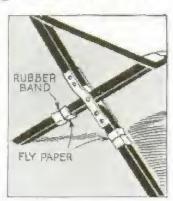
A good cover for a cistern can be made by filling an old car-wheel rim with concrete. A handle for the cover is provided



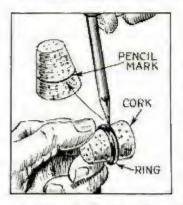
by sticking a U-shaped iron rod into the concrete while it is still soft. Such a cover is neat, permanent, and is too heavy for children to dislodge. If desired, the concrete may be put in only the top two-thirds of the rim, leaving a recess on the underside into which the top of the cistern will fit.

#### Flypaper Keeps Ants Off Cot

Wrap a strip of flypaper around each leg of your camp cot, and ants will not crawl up them and get into the bedclothing. A rubber band around each strip will hold the flypaper in place.



#### Cork Measures Finger-Ring Size



If you are going to purchase a ring for a friend or relative and it is inconvenient to carry one along to the store for the correct measurement, use a cork. Slip a ring of the correct size over the cork

and mark its position. From this it will be easy for a jeweler to determine the size.

#### Making Candles Fit the Holders

When ornamental candles are too large to fit their holders, they can be made smaller at the base by dipping them in boiling water. Dip the candle repeatedly until enough of the wax has been melted away from the base to make it fit the holder.



■Dates will keep a long time if stored in tightly covered jars to exclude air. COFFEE TABLE has plate-glass top

THERE are only a few pieces comprising this neat little coffee table, namely: a wooden ring holding a plate-glass disk which forms the top, a wood disk to provide a shelf and assure rigidity, and four gracefully curved legs, having rounded or fluted outer edges. You turn the ring and disk on a lathe, and cut the legs on either a scroll or band saw,

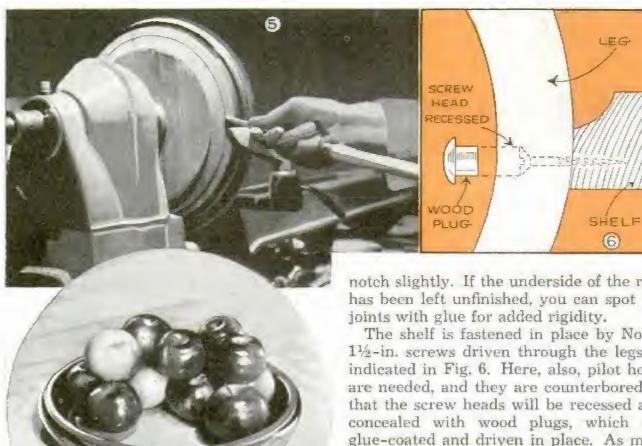
and the parts are fastened together with

wood screws.

First get the plate-glass disk 141/2 in. in diameter, after which you turn the ring from a block made by gluing up several pieces of hardwood. The block should be 171/2 in, square and 11/8 in. thick. One side is surfaced to fit snugly against a lathe faceplate and the corners are cut off to form a rough round before turning. After mounting, remove some of the center waste until you get a snug fit for the glass. Then turn the outside as in Fig. 5, to the design and dimensions given in Figs. 2 and 3. Sand the surface smooth, polish with No. 000 steel wool and finish with clear lacquer or white shellac. If lacquer is used on gum wood, apply the first coat and immediately wipe it off with a rag pad while the lathe is turning. This will leave just enough lacquer to seal the wood, over which a second coat of lacquer can be applied without trouble. However, two thick coats of lacquer cannot be used as the second one will raise the first. If walnut or other opengrained wood is used, filler, stained dark as desired, is first applied and rubbed down before lacquer or shellac is applied. The ring, after being finished and polished over its entire outside and top surfaces, is finally cut out by using the point of the small skew. Just before the ring is cut loose, the lathe is stopped and the final cut is made while the lathe is being turned by hand. This prevents the ring from being broken.

2 GLASS (3) Now saw out the legs, using the pattern shown in Fig. 4. Take care that the notches at the top are all exactly alike so that the ring will seat perfectly. Sand the legs well and rub with fine steel wool before finishing. The outer edges should be rounded or

fluted to eliminate severe plainness. To locate the exact position of the legs on the ring, scribe a circle on a large sheet of paper the same size as the bottom of the ring and divide this into quarters. Then



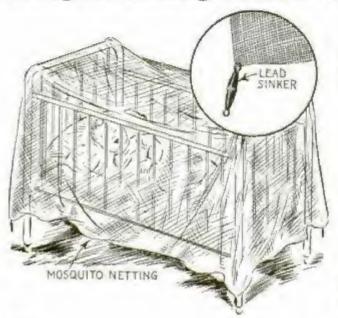
transfer the markings to the underside of the leg. Use No. 5 round-head screws, 11/4 in. long, for assembling. Drill 1/8-in. pilot holes for the screws through the top of each leg, at a slight angle, and then fasten the legs in place temporarily to check the spread between them so that the shelf will touch each one. If any one of the legs are out of line, alter the angle of the shoulder

notch slightly. If the underside of the ring has been left unfinished, you can spot the joints with glue for added rigidity.

The shelf is fastened in place by No. 5, 1½-in, screws driven through the legs as indicated in Fig. 6. Here, also, pilot holes are needed, and they are counterbored so that the screw heads will be recessed and concealed with wood plugs, which are glue-coated and driven in place. As most of the lower structure of the table is clearly visible, all parts except the underside of the ring and shelf should be finished nicely.

If desired, a round tray that will match the table top, can be turned as a separate project. Such a tray is shown in Fig. 7, and it is similarly fitted with a glass bottom. The tray can be the same size as the table top, or it can be made smaller and may even be designed so that it fits neatly on the table in such a way that it gives no indication to the casual observer that there is a separate tray, which is removable.

## Mosquito Netting on Crib Weighted to Keep It in Place

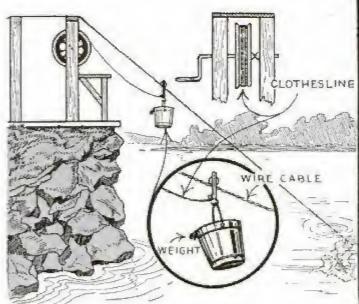


Instead of pinning a mosquito net over a baby's crib to keep out insects, tie a lead fishline sinker to each corner. The weights will keep the net in place, and it is easy to remove or replace.

#### Tires Deflated to Soften Ride When Taking Movies

Amateur movie fans might profitably follow Hollywood's trick of using lowpressure tires on camera cars to prevent traffic scenes from becoming "jumpy." Though practical only for short runs, deflating ordinary tires to a point where they completely "cushion" the ride should achieve the same result.

# Camp Water Pulled from Lake by Windlass



This windlass for pulling a bucket of water up an inclined cable from a lake or stream at your camp will save many steps. Also, it will enable you to get water farther from shore where it is usually cleaner than that near the shore. The windlass consists of an old car wheel mounted on a combination crank and axle, which is mounted on two posts. A third post supports a cable anchored under water at one end with a large boulder and at the other end with a



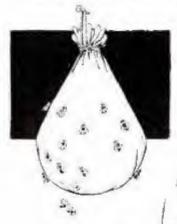
stake driven into the ground. A length of clothesline wound on the wheel is tied to a pulley that travels up and down the cable. The bucket is weighted at the rim so that it will tip when it reaches the water.

-W. W. Anderson, Minneapolis, Minn.

## U-Shaped Bench Stop Swings Out of Way When Not in Use

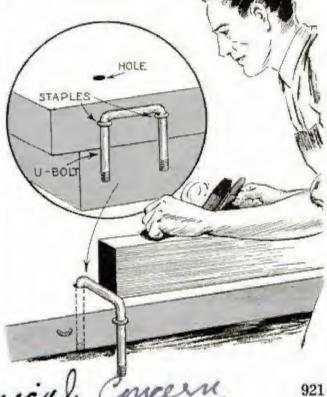
A simple bench stop that is out of the way when it is not needed, yet is always at hand, can be made from a large U-bolt and a couple of staples. The staples are driven into the side of the bench to support the stop when it is not in use. When lifted and swung to position for use, one leg of the bolt drops into a hole in the bench top.

#### Flies Killed with Poisoned Bait



A small sugar sack filled with poisoned grass-hopper bait and hung in a barn or other building where flies gather will destroy them. Keep the bag moistened, and place it so animals cannot reach it.

JUNE, 1940



Lor Chemical Concern.

#### Slotted-Pipe Stakes Support Wire Around Lawn



When using lengths of pipe as stakes to support a wire to discourage trespassing on a lawn, slot the pipe near the top end to take the wire. Then you can close the slots on the wire with a hammer.

#### Cushioned Handle Brackets Stop Rattle in Lawnmower

Rattle in a lawnmower can be reduced if rubber
bushings are
placed around the
posts over which
the handle brackets hook. Use a
strip of inner tube
fastened with tire
cement or heavy
rubber bands.



#### Lawn Hose as Hydrant Wrench

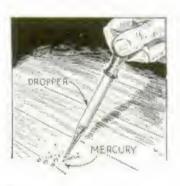


To loosen a garden hose at the hydrant or sill cock, make a wrench by cutting a length of hose as shown. When folded around the connection and gripped tightly, it will serve as a wrench to loosen

the connection without any possibility of crushing the thin metal ring on the end of the garden hose.

# Spilled Mercury Salvaged Easily with Medicine Dropper

Spilled mercury usually can be saved with a medicine dropper. Just compress the bulb of the dropper, hold the end against one of the small mercury drops and then release the bulb.



#### Safe Catch on Pole for Fishhook



The annoyance of a dangling fish-hook while carrying the pole along a creek or river can be avoided by tying a rubber band near the butt of the pole. Tie the rubber so that it

must be stretched to engage the hook. In this way, the hook cannot slip out of the band and catch in the clothing.

#### Locking of Type Forms Aided with Blotting Paper

Amateur printers who experience difficulty in locking forms of small type can avoid much of the trouble by inserting a strip of blotting paper between the side of the type form and the locking strips.



ZEPHYR-a sailing dinghy

By CHAS. H. McALARY

PART III—Mast, boom, rudder, rig, sail and painting

HAVING completed the hull of "Zephyr" as described in the previous installments, the 24-ft. mast is made next. Eight pieces of ½-in., straight-grain spruce, 2½ in, wide are required to build up the hollow mast as detailed in Fig. 34, four of these pieces being 10 ft. long and four 14 ft. long. The mast runs straight to a point 40 in, from the peak from where it tapers to 2 in. square at the end. The pieces are assembled to form the hollow section by lapping adjacent edges as shown in the circular detail of Fig. 34, and are spliced together by cutting the ends 45 degrees and then centering the butted ends over filler blocks fitted in place at these joints. Note that the joints are alike on opposite sides. The blocks should measure 2 in. square by 4 in. long, with the exception of those fitted at the base and peak which should be 6 in. long. Assemble the pieces with casein glue and brass screws, and clamp the work perfectly flat while the glue is drying. The aft edge of the mast, you will notice, is planed flat to receive the sail track.

The sheave for the halyard is installed as shown in Fig. 35. It should be either of brass or galvanized iron and should turn in a slot which is at least ½ in. wider, so that it will not bind when the wood swells. Eye plates for the stays are screwed to the mast at the beginning of the taper and like all other fittings, they should be of brass, especially for salt-water use. The gooseneck, shown in the insert in Fig. 34, can be made from brass stock or a similar fitting can be purchased ready-made.

For the boom, select a good, straight-

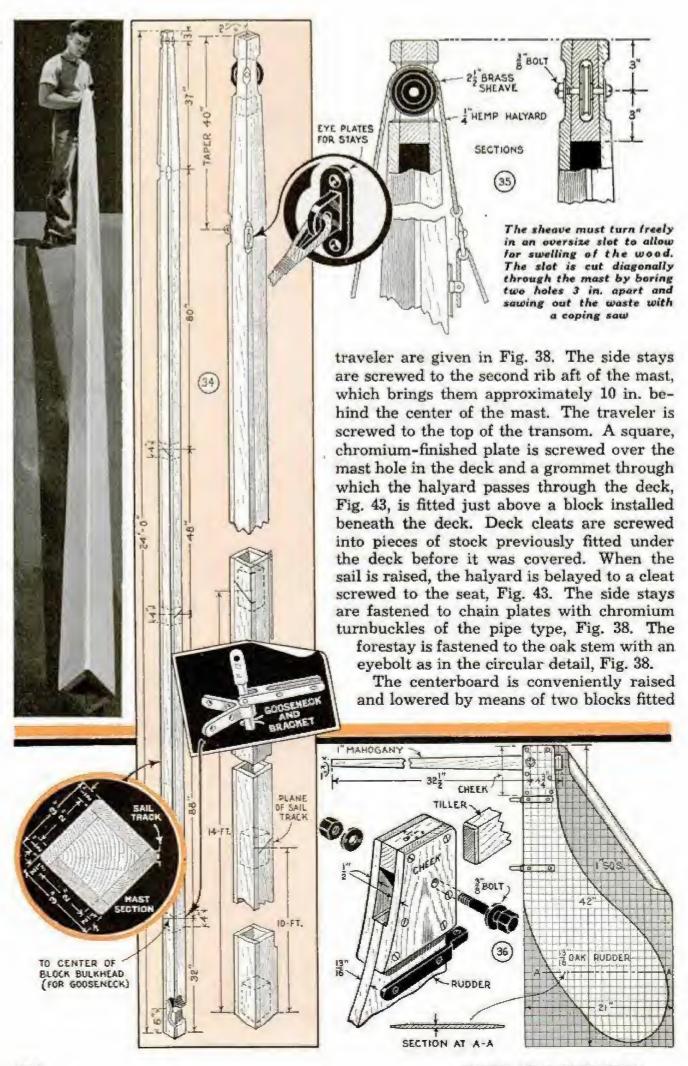




Top photo shows the foot of the sail being tracked on the boom in readiness to be hauled aloft, while the lower photo, a stern view of "Zephyr," shows the fast, trim lines of its hull

grained piece of spruce 1¾ in. square and 12 ft. 6 in. long. Beginning at the center of the piece, taper one end to measure 1% in. square, planing the work on the bottom and sides only, as shown in Fig. 37. The top is left flat for the sail track and the opposite end of the boom is trimmed to fit the gooseneck brackets. Location of the blocks for the sheet and the method of securing the sheet to the end of the boom, are also shown in Fig. 37. Quarter-inch hemp rope is used for the sheet.

Locations of the chocks, cleats, stays and



as in Fig. 42. An upright, screwed to a deck beam and the keelson, provides a solid support for attaching the block and the end of the line. The other end of the hemp rope is belayed to a cleat on the seat. The rudder, Fig. 36, is cut from a single piece of oak 13/16 in. thick. Lay out a fullsize pattern on 1-in, squares and transfer to the wood. The edges are tapered, below the waterline, as shown in the section A-A. The tiller, which may be made of either mahogany or oak, is located between rabbeted cheeks at the top of the rudder and is bolted in a tapered slot to permit a slight up-and-down movement. Place thin washers on each side of the tiller and be sure that the slot is wide enough to avoid binding when the wood swells. Strap and plate gudgeons, fastened to the rudder and transom, as in Figs. 36 and 38, permit the rudder to be detached easily by means of a removable pin. This type of hinge will not come loose and checks the tendency of the rudder to float upward. The 3-in, mahogany splash board, Fig. 44, is fastened to the deck with screws, which are inserted in

counterbored holes and driven into the deck beams. This is centered forward of the cockpit, just aft of the mast, and is reinforced at the peak with a brass strip.

Now for painting the boat. First sand the entire hull thoroughly, using progressively finer grades of paper until the surface is glass smooth.

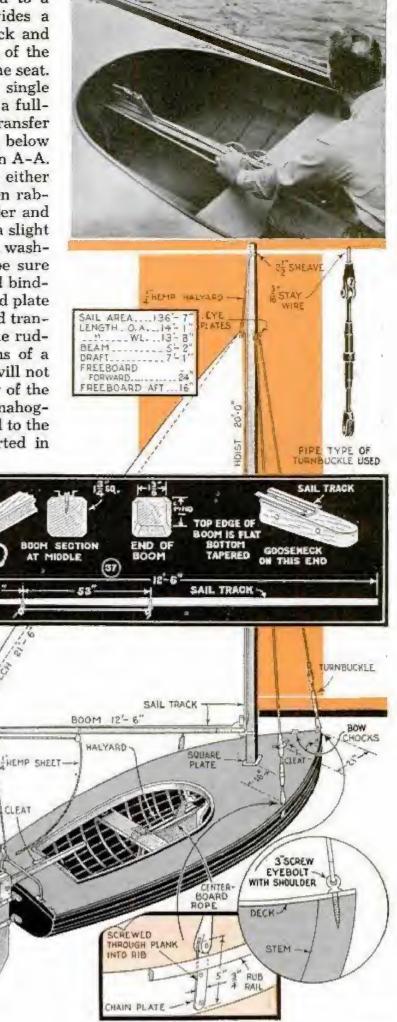
PLATE

GUDGEONS

RUDDER

CLEAT

(33)



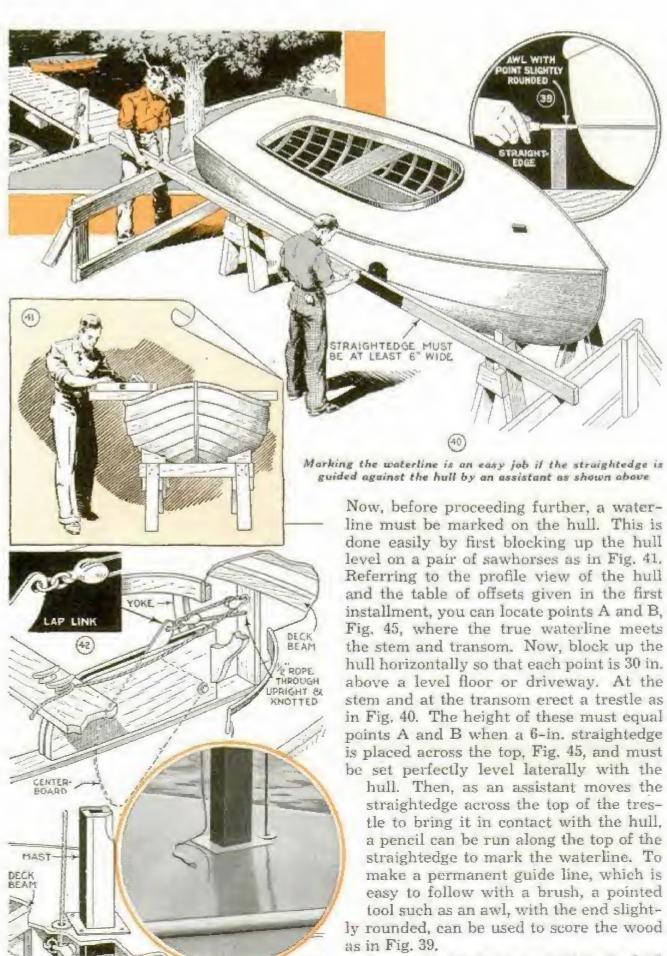
STRAP

BRACKETS

22

TRAVELLER

PIN



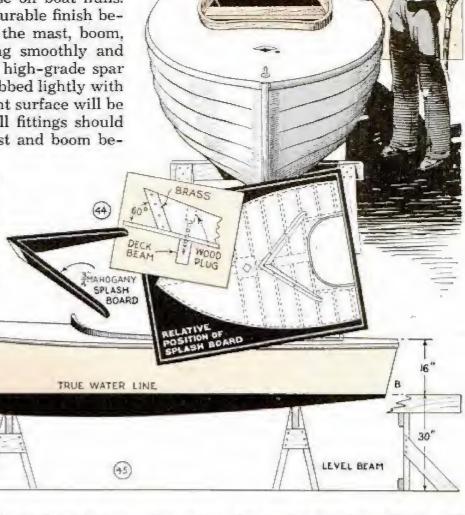
KALYARD

A coat of oil paint is applied to the hull above the waterline. After this priming coat is dry, apply four coats of flat white paint, allowing ample time between coats for each to dry thoroughly. Sandpaper this lightly and then apply a final coat of gloss

enamel. The deck is given several coats of flat paint to fill the canvas covering, and when dry, is sanded lightly as before. This procedure is repeated until the desired finish is obtained. The bottom of the hull, below the waterline, is given three coats of copper paint, using the type which is expressly prepared for use on boat hulls. This will give a smooth, durable finish below the waterline. Sand the mast, boom, tiller and cockpit coaming smoothly and finish with three coats of high-grade spar varnish. If each coat is rubbed lightly with fine steel wool, an excellent surface will be had for the final coat. All fittings should be removed from the mast and boom before varnishing.

As previously mentioned, the use of a %in. thick centerboard is advised for amateur sailors, as the extra weight provides more ballast than a thinner one. More expe-

STRAIGHTEDGE



Several applications of flat

paint, sanded lightly between coats, will give a

smooth finish to the canvas-

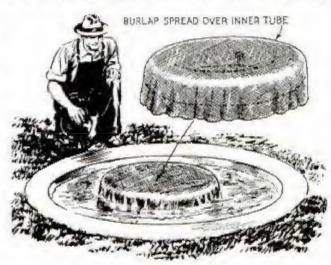
covered deck

rienced seamen will be able to handle the hull easily, when a %-in. centerboard is used. Naturally the width of the centerboard well must be varied accordingly so that when the centerboard swells it will not bind in the well. Fig. 38 gives full dimensions for the sail. It is best to have this made up by a competent sailmaker.

## Fishpool Kept Cool in Summer by Evaporation of Water

One gardener keeps the water in his fishpool at a comfortable temperature on hot days, by spreading a piece of burlap over an inflated inner tube, which floats on top of the water. The cloth will provide a shady spot for the fish and the evaporation of water taken up by it will tend to lower the temperature of the water in the pool several degrees.

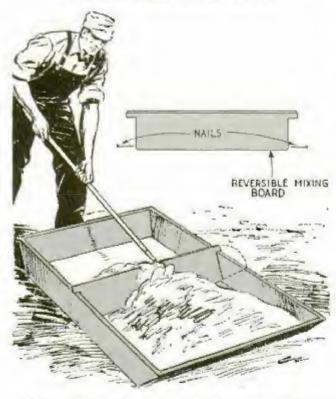
• When holding small parts such as a rivet in a vise to shorten it by filing, grip the part between the jaws of a pair of pliers and put the pliers in a vise.



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JUNE, 1940

#### Reversible Divider in Mortar Box Saves Time and Labor



Pivoted in the center of a mortar box, this reversible dividing board will save time and labor when mixing sand and plaster. The contents of the box are pulled over the board with a mixing hoe, after which the board is reversed and the work repeated in the opposite direction.

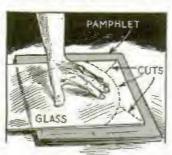
#### Spectacle Case to Carry Drills

An old spectacle case is handy for carrying a number of small drills, especially if you carry them in your pocket. The spring lid of the case stays closed securely, yet is



opened quickly for selection of the desired drill.—Earl E. Hanna, Canton, Ohio.

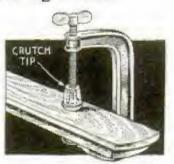
#### Pressure Aids in Cutting Glass



The next time you want to cut disks or other shapes of a circular nature from glass, try the following method: Make the arc or circular score in the regular way, with additional scores out to the edge of the glass. Then turn the glass over on a thick pamphlet or magazine with the scored lines on the underside. By spreading the fingers and pressing down on the glass as shown, the outside pieces will break away.

#### Rubber Tip on C-Clamp Screw Avoids Marring Work

When using a C-clamp on varnished or finished work, a rubber crutch tip slipped over the end of the screw will keep it from marring the work. These tips



can be obtained in several sizes to fit various clamps.

-A. H. Waychoff, Phoenix, Ariz.

#### Screen-Door Hooks Shielded to Protect Clothing

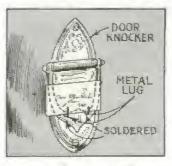


Hooks to attach screen-door springs, and for other uses where the hooks are exposed, can be shielded to prevent tearing the

clothing by simply slipping fuller balls over them. Avoiding damage to one garment will more than pay for the time and trouble of shielding the hooks.

#### Door Knocker Holds Caller's Card

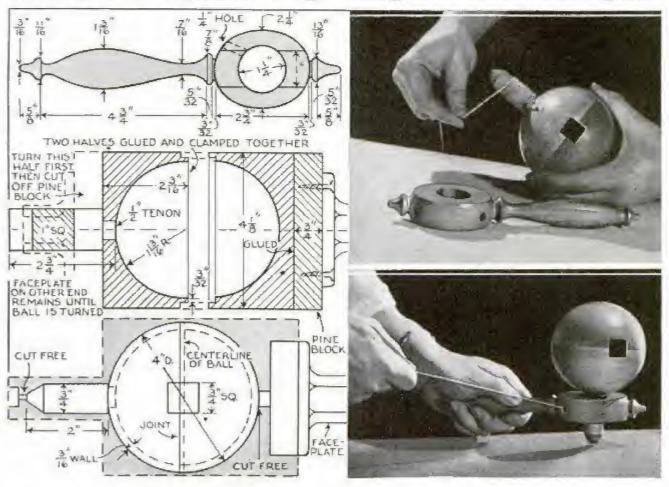
If you have a door knocker of the type shown, solder a couple of L-shaped metal pieces to the knocker in the position indicated. Then if friends



come while you are away they can leave their cards to let you know they called.

(A coating of automobile wax on the inside sections of flat curtain rods will help to protect the finish against wear.

# Turned Swedish Top Sings While It Spins

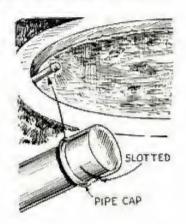


DATTERNED from an original made in Sweden more than a century ago, this unusual, wooden top, which is turned on a lathe, produces a pleasing hum as it spins swiftly over the floor. The hollow, ball part of the top is turned from two maple blocks on a faceplate, each half first being glued to a scrap, pine block, after which the latter is attached to the faceplate. Then the center of each half of the ball is turned concave and the edges rabbeted to fit together snugly. Stock for the spinner is glued at the base of one block and the two halves are glued and clamped together between the lathe centers. The outside diameter is turned to the dimensions given above, checking the work frequently with a cardboard template to obtain a perfect sphere. The square opening made in one side of the ball is filed to shape after first drilling a starting hole. Variation in sounds can be obtained by varying the size of the opening, this being accomplished by providing snug-fitting inserts of various sizes which can be pressed into the opening.

The handle, in which the top is held to spin it, is turned from a 2%-in. square piece and is planed or sanded flat on two sides to measure 1 in. thick. A hole to take the spinner is bored through the center of the flat portion and an opening is made through the side through which a string is pulled to spin the top. To do this, the string is wound around the spinner, as shown in the upper photo, after which the end of the string is passed through the hole in the side of the handle. Holding the top upright as shown in the lower photo, give the string a quick pull and with a slight upward motion, throw the top clear of the handle to alight on the floor.

#### Simple Aerator for Fish Pool

The owner of a large fish pool keeps the water well aerated by simply directing fresh water into the pool in the form of a spray. The spray is produced by forcing the water through a slotted pipe cap.



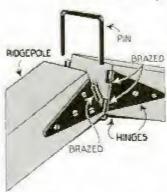
#### Sub-Surface Watering of Trees and Shrubs



Nursing a newly planted tree or shrub through a hot, dry summer is easy if you use this method of directly watering the delicate root system. A pail or large can is placed in the ground at a distance of 16 in, from the trunk. Holes are punched in the bottom of the can, and a row of them are also punched about 1 in. apart around the sides, to permit filtration of the water into the soil. In the fall the can is removed and the aperture filled with compost and fertilizer which leeches down to feed the roots.

-M. E. Bridston, Port Blakely, Wash.

#### Long Tent Ridgepoles Hinged for Easy Storing



By hinging tent ridgepoles in one or more places, they can be folded compactly for carrying or storing. For each joint you will need three strap hinges. After squaring the ends of the pole, put

one of the hinges on the underside. Then remove the pins from the other two and screw them to the sides of the pole. Make a U-shaped pin for both of the hinges from a length of small rod. To fold the pole, just remove the U-shaped pin, which holds the pole rigidly when it is inserted into the hinge eyes.—E. Rushing, Groveton, Tex.

#### Birdhouse You Can Make Quickly

Here is a birdhouse that you can
make in one evening. The ends are
cut from ½-in.
wood, and the roof,
sides and bottom
are cut from composition roofing,
which is merely
nailed to the edges
of the end pieces.

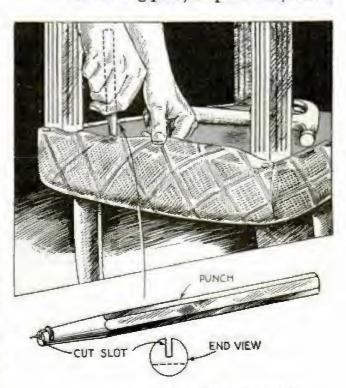


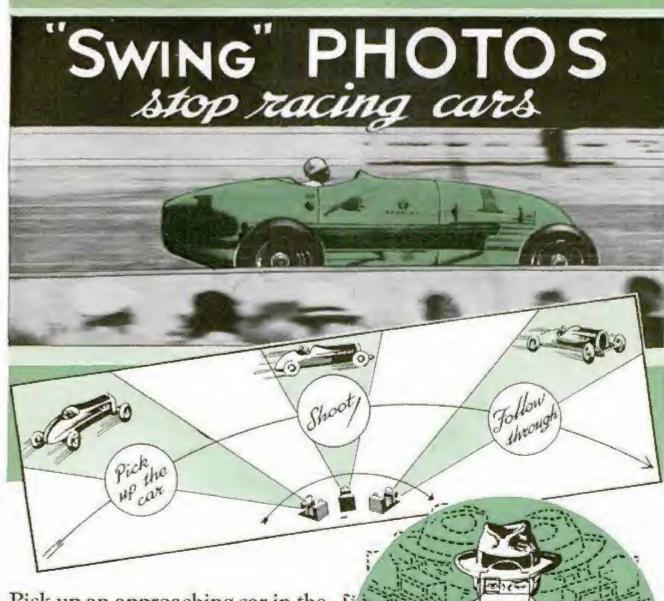
A ¼-in. dowel projecting underneath the entrance hole serves as a perch. The house is about 12 in. high and 6 in. wide at the roof edge, depending on the size of the bird for which it is intended.

#### Slotted Punch to Drive Tacks

When driving tacks in places that are rather hard to reach, or when retacking upholstering material where it is desirable to have one hand free to stretch it, this punch is just the thing, because it holds the tack while starting it. Two slots are cut at the lower end of the punch as shown.

-A. V. Bergquist, Maple Plain, Minn.





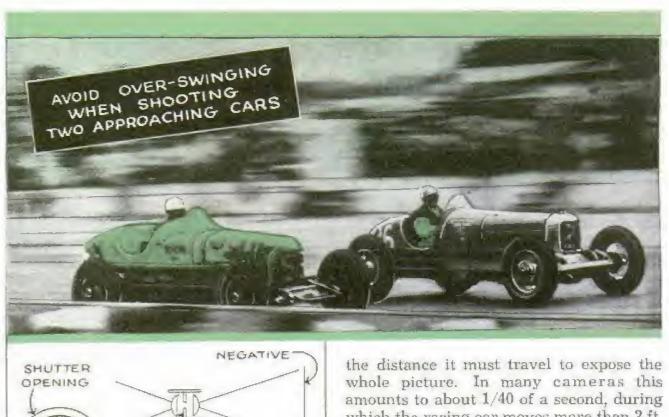
Pick up an approaching car in the view finder and swing around to hold it while snapping the shutter

#### By THOMAS P. LAKE

A T INDIANAPOLIS speedway, on Decoration Day, cars will roar out of the turns and flash past the stands at 120 m.p.h. and more. Yet those speed demons can be stopped in a fraction of a second by the winking eye of a camera.

At 120 m.p.h. a racing car is traveling 176 ft. per second. Camera exposures are measured in tenths, hundredths, and thousandths of a second. Yet in 1/10 of a second the racing car has traveled 17.6 ft. In 1/100 of a second the car has traveled 1 ft. 9 in. Even in 1/1,000 of a second the car has traveled slightly more than 2 in. The mechanics of shutters put a limit on their shortest exposures. Between-the-lens shutters on some small cameras will give

1/500 of a second, on larger cameras 1/200 or 1/250 of a second. Roll-curtain shutters give exposures of 1/1,000 or 1/1,250 of a second, yet these very short exposures are somewhat misleading as the slot in the shutter curtain moves across the negative, giving in effect a series of exposures, the total time of which is found by multiplying the nominal exposure by the number of times the width of the slot is contained in



LENS BETWEEN THE LENS SHUTTER SLOT IN & CURTAIN ADMITS IMAGE TO SHUTTER SLOT NEGATIVE MOVES DOWN SHUTTER SLOT NEGATIVE = LENS SPRING ROLLER ROLL-CURTAIN SHUTTER

which the racing car moves more than 2 ft.

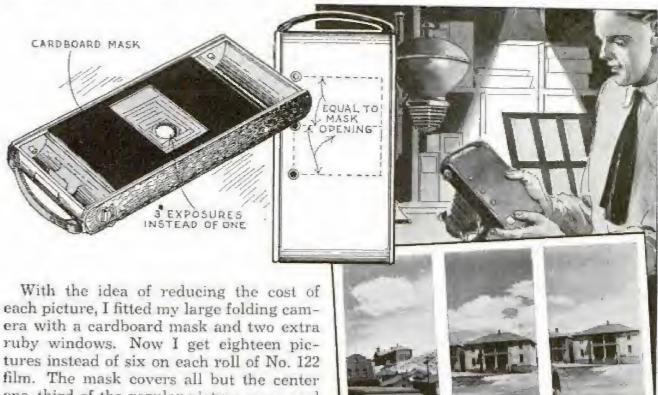
As the shutter of the camera is incapable of giving a fast enough exposure to stop the motion of the racing car, the photographer must do it. He can take a photo of a car traveling at a speed of 120 m.p.h., and show small details with an exposure of only 1/500 second. The way to do this is stand with the feet slightly spread, and face the point where you want to make the picture. This may be only 50 ft. from the track. If the camera is of the reflex type, hold it firmly against your chest; if the camera is of a miniature type or if an eye-level finder is used, brace it against the side of the head. Twist the body toward the point where the car will first appear and then follow it in the finder, increasing the speed of the swing as the car approaches. When you face the preselected point for which the camera was

focused beforehand, make the exposure, and continue the swing to allow the mechanism to complete its action. Practice this a few times and then make at least five exposures to be sure of matching the camera swing to the car's speed in order to obtain one good picture. Of course, background will be

blurred but the car has been "stopped."

The same technique of arresting other fast-moving objects such as trains, airplanes, speedboats, divers, etc., can be applied with equally successful results, whether the swing is horizontal or vertical.

# Big Camera Takes Inexpensive Small Pictures



With the idea of reducing the cost of each picture, I fitted my large folding camera with a cardboard mask and two extra ruby windows. Now I get eighteen pictures instead of six on each roll of No. 122 film. The mask covers all but the center one-third of the regular picture space and is fastened in the camera with shellac. The extra ruby windows, which can be purchased at a photo-supply store, are spaced as shown in the center detail, the top one being the original window. The first exposure on a roll is made with the number 1 opposite the center window, the second

with I opposite the top window, the third with 2 opposite the lower window and so on. The view finder is masked with tape, leaving only the center one-third exposed.

—Lawrence Harshbarger, Superior, Wyo.

# Films and Prints Dried in Dish Rack over Hot-Air Register

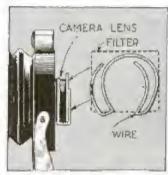
Both ferrotyped prints and films are dried quickly when placed in a rack like the one shown and set over a warm-air

FOLDING DISH register. Almost any size ferrotype plate will fit in the rack in the position shown and the film rack from a cut-film tank can be placed so the negatives will drain at one corner. The dish rack folds compactly and takes little space when not in use.

John Modroch, Chicago.

#### Wire Holders Adapt Single Filter to Different-Size Lenses

One unmounted filter can be used on several cameras if a wire holder is made to fit each lens. The wire should be sufficiently flexible to permit the holder to be slipped on



and off the lens without being bent out of shape.—H. F. Williams, LeRoy, N. Y.

RACK

#### Extension Cord Wound on Cleat Soldered to Lamp Standard



Two halves of a clothesline cleat soldered to the standard of a photo light provide a reel on which to wind the extension cord. Choose a cleat of the right size to accommodate the cord on the lamp, cut it in two, and place the halves about a foot apart on the standard.

#### Cork in End of Steel Print Tongs Keeps Them Out of Tray



Steel print tongs won't slide into a tray when laid on the edge if a cork is fitted in the loop end. A cork from a gallon jug is just about right.

#### Small Strips of Colored Paper Identify Film in Holders

Green and red poster paper cut in strips is convenient for indicating the kind of film your holders contain. The strips should be about 3/4 by 21/2 in. and are slipped between



the dark slide and the edge of the holder when the film is loaded. Use green for panchromatic film and red for orthochromatic. If you wish to indicate fast, medium or slow film of either kind, the strips can be cut in different lengths. Remove the paper before a picture is taken and return it afterward. Date, exposure data, or other notes can be written on the strips of paper if desired.

-Arthur Trauffer, Davenport, Iowa.

#### Diffuser with Two Folded Pockets Slips On and Off Reflector

In an emergency, a square of tracing cloth or other suitable translucent material folded over at two ends and stapled as shown makes a handy diffuser for photoflood lights.



It should fit loosely so it can be slipped on and off the reflector easily and so air can circulate freely around it to keep it from getting too hot.

#### Cut Films Wedged in Slotted Stick Developed without Scratching



Several cut films can be developed at once in a tray by this method without danger of scratching them. With a sharp knife, make a cut about ¼ in. deep on each side of a clean piece of wood. Wedge the ends of the film sheets in the slots as shown and they cannot rub together during development. If a large tray is used for developing, the stick can be made long enough to hold up to a dozen negatives.





control on the front panel, which properly connects all circuits from crystal to antenna. It is only necessary

to retune the final amplifier plate. A high-level high-impedance microphone may be used. The output circuit is adjustable to match any type of standard antenna resistive load of from 10 to 600 ohms. Operation is normally from 115-volt a.c. line; however, provision is made for connecting external generator or vibrator supply units for operation from battery or other d.c. sources.

Tubes employed: 1-6L6 oscillator-doubler; 1-RK-39 or 807 final r.f. amplifier; 1-6F5 microphone amplifier; 1-6J5 audio amplifier; 2-6L6G modulators and 2-5Z3 rectifiers.

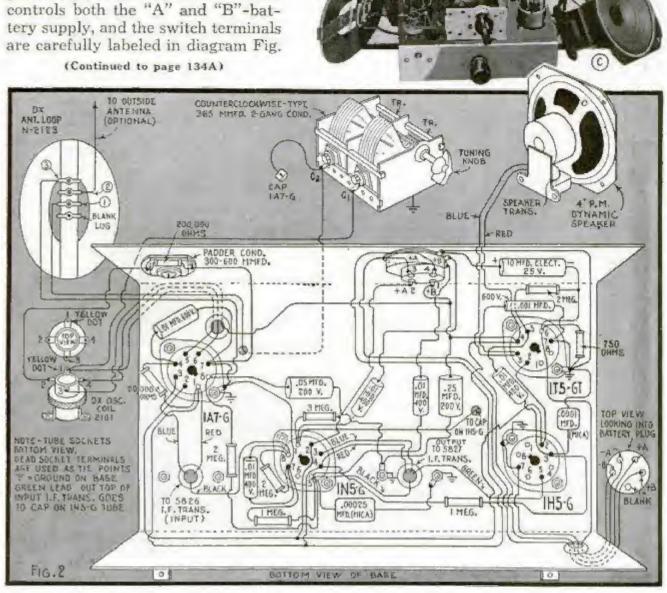
JUNE, 1940

The Hallicrafters due ?



BATTERY-OPERATE Vacation Receiver

easily accessible. One battery plug and a short length of 4-conductor cable, make all connections automatically, as shown in the simplified wiring diagram Fig. 2; if separate leads are used, tape them together. This diagram presents an underside view of the metal base and shows every lead continued on to the parts that are mounted above. A schematic circuit diagram is given in Fig. 3; these diagrams, with photos C, D and E, show every construction detail. The volume control'is the only variable resistor employed. This is a 1-megohm "Centralab" or "Stackpole" type with a double-pole single-throw switch built in. This switch controls both the "A" and "B"-bat-



### Improving Tone of Console-Type Receivers



CURVED FRONT SOUND TUBES PRESSED-BOARD PAREL TOP VIEW) Fig. I FLYWOOD RAIGHT FRONT (OPTIONAL) DANEL OPEN CEILING ENDS WALL MOLDING

SOUND

FRONT VIEW

TUBES

TCLOSED

ANY radio serviceman will tell you that the ideal location for a large console is across a corner in the room. In this position plenty of air space is available for the tones coming out of the back of the loud speaker. These sound waves, if properly controlled, add much to tone quality.

Owners of large consoles can obtain excellent results by installing a panel of 1-in. soft pressed wood from the top back of the set up to the ceiling. Outlet holes may be located near the top of the panel so that the sound waves have to travel as far as possible before emerging into the room. The front of the panel is covered with cloth or loosely woven tapestry to hide the outlets. The area of the outlet holes should add up to roughly 1½ square feet. A further improvement in fone quality may be obtained by making the sound waves travel down various sizes of tubes made of the same material as the panel and glued in position as indicated in Figs. 1 and 2; dimensions are not critical. The largest tube should be 7 or 8 in. square and each succeeding tube should be one-third smaller both in length and diameter. Panel is framed with 1-in. cove molding placed back to back to a piece of 1-in. quarterround molding carefully mitered to fit snugly after cloth is placed over panel. Triangular spaces between cabinet and wall may be left as is, or closed in with shelves for logs or record albums as indicated in Fig. 1 and photos.

Fig. 2

**OUTLET** MOLES OR GRILLES



fig. 1, ordinary permanent-magnet dynamic speaker, with universal transformer to couple to grid of first audio amplifier tube, makes practical low-cost "speaker-microphone" for home broadcasting and amateur use. Efficient operation depends on proper baffling

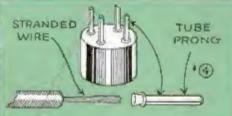


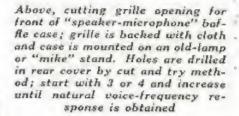
Photo, Fig. 2, shows tiny 5 and 6-prong tube sockets and retainer ring designed for the new "Bantam Jr." tubes now available for portable hearing-aid circuits, pocket-type receivers and compact testing equipment. Fig. 3, tin funnel soldered in end of ground pipe so that water may be added easily as required to provide sufficient moisture to provide sufficient moisture to dissure a good radio ground in dry, sandy localities where efficient ground connection is difficult to obtain

MIKE PLUS



Fig. 4, prongs taken from an old tube base make neat cord tips to fit clips or tip jacks; tin wire, insert and apply heat to prong. Fig. 5, kinks and twists in coil wire quickly removed by pulling wire through prongs of a tube base. Fig. 6, pocket-type dry battery checker and voltmeter tests all dry batteries under load









JUNE, 1940

Frequency-Modulation Receivers





Although both of these receivers have the general appearance of standard table-type and console instruments, they are designed to receive the new "staticless" frequency-modulation programs now on the air in several states. The small set is for the 39 to 44 megacycle FM band only; the console set covers FM, short-wave, police-amateur and standard broadcast.

#### Marine 'Phone' for Battery or A.C.



This small craft radiophone transmitter and 7-tube superheterodyne receiver operates on the boat's battery, but by interchanging one plug, provision is made for operation from any 110-volt a.c. line to avoid unnecessary battery drain while in service at a dock. Five crystal-controlled transmitting frequencies are available, also five corresponding receiving channels.

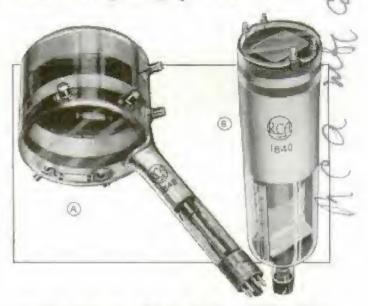
#### Wide Range Signal Generator

Providing accurate test signals for lining up any type of radio receiver, this a.c. operated signal generator has a range of from 75 kilocycles to 30 megacycles.



#### Special-Purpose Television Tubes

Iconoscope photo A, is a special form of cathode-ray tube used in television transmission for "picking up" a scene and con-



verting it to an electrical signal. Small in size, it is used in portable television cameras. Orthicon, photo B, is for direct pick-up and pickup from motion-picture film.

■Blueprints covering radio construction articles in this and past issues are available for 25 cents each. Original material lists, with names of manufacturers and dealers, can be obtained from our Radio Department upon receipt of postage.

NEXT MONTH—Beginner's "Mighty Midget" One-Tuber for Short Waves. This simple, compact and inexpensive short-wave receiver takes full advantage of the sensational new type-1D8GT, 1.4-volt battery tube, and is a real distance-getter. Also—How to Build a Volume Expander Unit; for improving tone of any amplifier



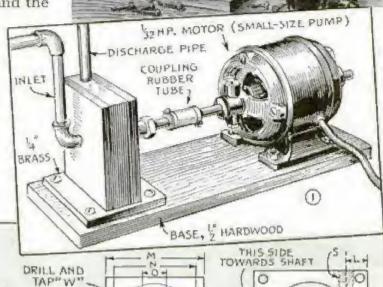
## SHOP NOTES

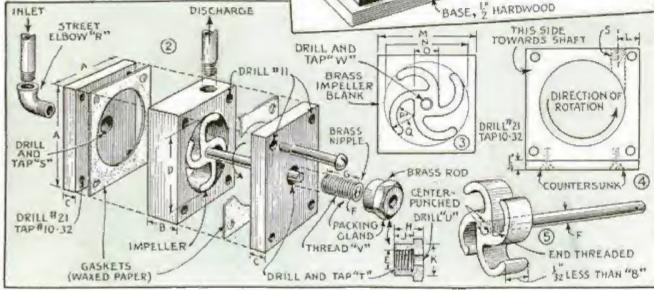
Circulating PUMPS
of flat metal

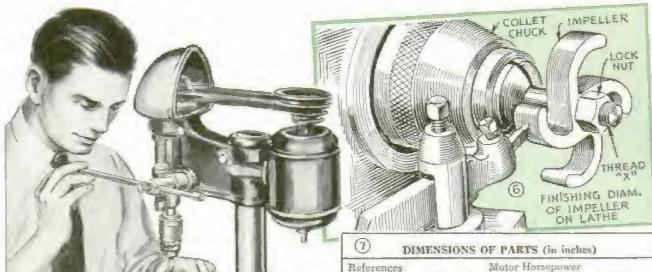
USEFUL for numerous purposes in the shop, laboratory, or darkroom, a small circulating pump such as shown in Fig. 1, can be built out of sheet brass or aluminum. No castings are required. A motor, from ½2 to ¼-hp., is needed, depending on the size of the pump, three sizes being covered in the table Fig. 7.

The body is made from three square brass plates, as indicated in Fig. 1. Dimensions are indicated by letters, which are used when referring to the table. Find the

letter corresponding to the dimension from the illustrations, and then obtain its numerical value for the proper size pump from the table. The thickness of the center block is indicated by "B" in Fig. 2. In assembling the pump the three pieces are clamped together and drilled at the corners for machine screws. For pumps of the large size additional screws should be







used at the center of each side. The plates are screwed together in proper alignment, and a pilot hole is drilled at the center, after which the plates are taken apart. One outside plate is drilled centrally and tapped "S" for a street elbow of the proper size. The second outside plate is drilled centrally and tapped dimension "T." The bearing for the shaft is a piece of seamless brass tubing having an outside diameter, "E," and an inside diameter, "F," which equals the shaft diameter. The outside of the bearing is threaded "V," and is to be screwed in place.

The center block is bored out to dimension "D" to receive the impeller. A pilot hole is used as a guide to keep this central, and the hole is bored in the lathe. After it has been bored, the discharge hole is drilled, it being located by using the reference letter "L" in Fig. 3. Drill and tap "S" for a pipe nipple, which is screwed in place to serve as the discharge pipe. In the bottom of the center block, drill and tap two holes for machine screws for attachment to the base.

The construction of the impeller is indicated in Figs. 3, 5, and 6. Fig. 3 shows a piece of brass of proper size from which the impeller is cut. On the small pump this piece must be ½2 in thinner than the thickness of the center block of the pump body. For the larger pumps this clearance can be

References	Motor Horsepower			
to drawings	Ma to his	linto la	14 to 5i	
A	3	416	5	
E	34	44	1	
C	1/4	1/4	74	
D	21/6	314	434	
E	物值	1/6	Fig.	
F	34	24	3/2	
G	44	1	1	
H	拉	34	24	
J	节包	7,4	36	
K.	56	31	79	
1.	54	36	2150	
3/4	2	314	4	
N	196	3154	376	
0	34	76	134	
P	200 J 100 [10]	1550	19/10	
Q	2,12	70	11/9	
R	2 °	36	36	

	Drill, Tap and Thread Sizes				
5	½ pipe tap	lis pipe tap	½ pipe tap		
T	76-20 tap	½-13 tap	%-11 tap		
U	14 drill ream to fit	% drill ream to fit	14 drill ream to fit		
v	%-20 thread	42-13 thread	%-11 thread		
w	No. 7 drill and ¼-20 tap	% drill and %-16 tap	2% drill and ½-13 tap		
X	44-20 thread	%-16 thread	1/2-13 thread		

increased to 1/16 in. The central hole of the impeller is drilled and tapped, "W," to fit on a cold-rolled steel shaft which is threaded at one end, the threaded end projecting to take a lock nut. Then the impeller is turned down to the finished diameter "N," Fig. 6. Excess metal is removed by drilling, sawing, and filing, the shaft being removed temporarily. When the impeller is finished it is screwed onto the shaft, the end of which is sawed off, and the impeller is pinned permanently in place by striking with a center punch, Fig. 5.

The pump can now be assembled. The shaft is slipped through the bearing, wrapped with graphitized packing, and the gland is screwed down. The center section of the pump is screwed to the base and the two end plates are put in place. Gaskets will have to be used between the sections

of the body. If the pump is to be used for handling water, brown paper cut to the proper size and shape and impregnated with oil will make a suitable gasket. For other liquids the gasket will have to be chosen accordingly. Shellac is frequently used to impregnate a paper gasket where oiled paper would not be satisfactory.

The completed pump is mounted on a suitable base together with the motor which drives it. In operation, it is essential that the pump be full of liquid at all times. It is not self-priming and must be filled before operation is begun. If air gets into the pump, it will have to be primed again. It is best to place the pump at the lowest point in the circuit, so that it will tend to clear itself of air.

#### Pipe Wrench Serves as Vise



Not having a pipe vise at hand to hold a length of pipe while threading it, one mechanic used a pipe wrench locked in a bench vise. A second wrench slipped over the pipe near the outer end, so that the end of the handle rests against the bench top, will help hold the pipe rigidly.

#### WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?

Have you solved some troublesome everyday problem of a mechanical nature pertaining to your home, work or occupation, your hobby, play or recreation? If so, why not send a short description and a sketch or photo to our Homecraft Editor. Many other readers might benefit from what you have done. We pay promptly for accepted material.

#### Valves Changed in Storage Tank Without Draining It

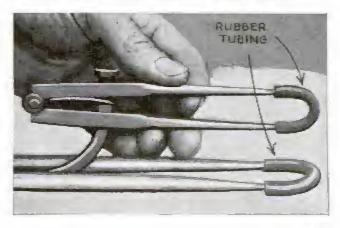




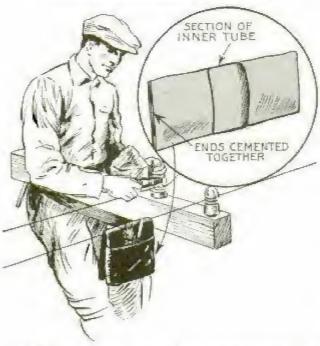
Defective globe valves on large tanks can be renewed or repaired without draining the tank by using a swab as shown. This is made by wrapping a burlap sack around the end of a length of small pipe. In use, the swab is started into the valve, which is then opened and the swab pushed into the pipe or nipple close to the tank. The swab plugs the line so that the valve can be removed. Oil that leaks past the swab can be caught in a pail. After replacing the valve, the swab is pulled out.

#### Rubber Tube Shields Dividers

Points of large dividers and compasses can be protected by merely slipping short lengths of small rubber tubing over them as indicated. Corks and bits of rubber usually used for this purpose on small dividers are of little use on the larger ones, carried in a box with other large tools.



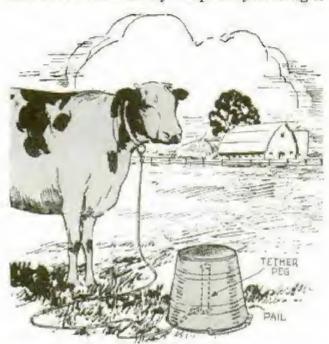
#### Rubber 'Saddlebag' Hung on Wire Holds Lineman's Tools



The inconvenience often experienced by electricians and linemen of removing their tools from a belt while working at the top of a pole or while working among many wires, is avoided with this saddlebag. It is made from a section of inner-tube, cut and cemented as shown, and when hung on a wire, two tool pockets are exposed.

#### Inverted Pail Covers Tether Peg to Protect Animal

To prevent a tethered animal from injuring itself on the peg, just invert a pail over the peg. If the top of the peg has become mushroomed by frequently driving it



into the ground, the animal is almost sure to injure its leg on the jagged edges unless they are covered.

## Spring Avoids Jerk on Chain of Electric-Light Socket

In shops and other places where lights are sometimes controlled by long pull chains, breakage caused by jerking the chains too hard can be avoided by putting a small coil spring in each chain or cord.



Pieces of a light screen-door spring are just the thing for this purpose.

#### Desk Penholder Shows Date and Day of the Month



Mounted on the base of your desk penholder, this calendar shows the date at a glance when you pick up your pen to write. The calendar is a paper disk numbered around the edge

from 1 to 31 with the days of the week printed on the face as indicated. Pointers or hands like those of a clock are pivoted to the holder. Each morning, they are set to show the date and the day of the week.

#### Mower Guards Cleaned with Wire

Gum on mower sickle guards that is caused by juices from grass and weeds mixing with dirt can be removed easily with a length of cabletype clothesline. This is pulled



back and forth in the slot of the guard as indicated, the rough surface of the clothesline quickly scraping the gum loose.

### Non-Chatter Tool for Grooving Metal Disks



After experiencing difficulty in turning grooves in the faces of metal disks, due to the tendency of a square-nosed cutting tool to chatter or dig in, I ground this special tool, which has two cutting edges as shown. It must be adjusted in the tool post so that the edges are perfectly square with the surface in which the groove is to be cut.

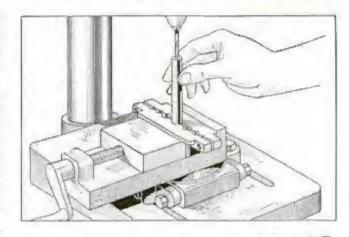
Then, by feeding the tool radially back and forth across the groove, with the crossfeed of the lathe set to suitable stops, a perfectly smooth groove results

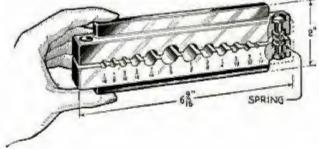
and there is no tendency to chatter. The distance between the two cutting edges of the tool should be less than half of the width of the groove to be turned. This permits the tool to be moved radially to avoid leaving a ridge in the bottom of the groove as it is cut.

-E. B. Davenport, Ross, Calif.

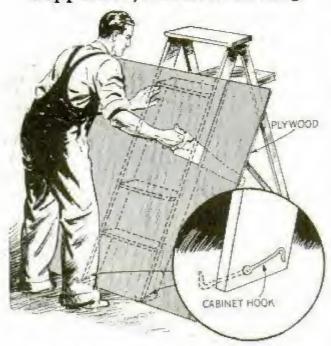
#### This Jig Supports Round Work Vertically to Drill the Ends

Capable of gripping round work varying in diameter from 1/2 in. to 1/2 in., this jig was made to support rods and pins in a bench vise or vertically in a drill press for drilling holes in the ends. Made of steel, the jig consists of two jaws bolted together at the ends, short coil springs being slipped over the bolts and held by collars to keep the jaws spread slightly for easy insertion of the work. In use, the jig is clamped in the drill-press vise, the jaws of the latter forcing the jaws of the jig to grip the work tightly. Notice that the outer edges of the jig are flanged to rest flatly on the upper surfaces of the vise jaws. The depressions ground in the facing edges of the jig to form holes when the jaws come together, must be slightly smaller than one-half the diameter of the work to be gripped so that the latter will be clamped tightly before the jaw edges touch.





#### Cabinet Hooks on Stepladder Legs Support Plywood for Sawing



To hold wide sheets of plywood conveniently for sawing, one carpenter has a pair of cabinet hooks attached to the bottom of the legs of his stepladder. When the hooks are turned outward, they engage the edge of the plywood sheet to hold it, and when not in use, the hooks are turned back over tacks driven into the legs.

#### Roller Jig Makes Welder's Work Easy to Handle

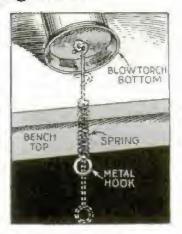
This jig makes the welding of tractor track rollers and similar work easy. The jig consists of two 6-in, metal rollers 18 in. long, mounted on a stand of angle iron and pipe welded together. A chain and two sprockets are used to rotate the rollers, which turn the work as desired. A wheel



from a child's tricycle welded to the hub of one of the sprockets serves as a handwheel.—Jos. C. Coyle, Yuma, Ariz.

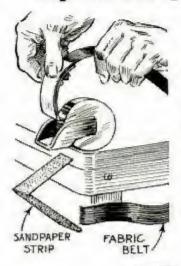
#### Blowtorch Kept from Tipping by Spring Hook

To keep a blowtorch from tipping or being overturned on his bench, one tinsmith uses a spring hook similar to the one shown. The hook passes through a hole in the bench, and a coil spring slipped over it holds it



down until it is pushed upward to engage the hole in the filler plug of the torch.

#### Sandpaper "Needle" to Thread Tape on Newspaper Folders



To save time in replacing tape or fabric belts on newspaper folding machines, one printer uses a sandpaper "needle" to thread the belt through the various pulleys. The needle is a strip of sandpaper folded over the end of the belt.

#### Screw Aids in Setting Dividers

Driven into your workbench in an outof-the-way place, a round-headed screw

provides a stop, which helps in setting dividers and calipers with the aid of a scale. One side of the screw head is filed away flush with



the bottom of the slot. In use, the scale and one leg of the dividers are rested against the screw head as indicated.

-Frank Bentley, Clinton, Ia.

# "Split-second" SOLDERING new fluxes-new solders-new methods By ALEXANDER MAXWELL O Special flux used to select

#### By ALEXANDER MAXWELL & Special flux used for solder-

EEPING abreast with the development on the metal around the flux of numerous new alloys, solders and of numerous new alloys, solders and burn. The flux litts up the fluxes especially prepared for use with oxide from the metal and the these alloys have been put on the market, and are available to every shop man, craftworker and experimenter. Since the advent of these special solders and fluxes, the previous specific distinction between

"hard" and "soft" solders has become practically obsolete and is now merely a general distinction between groups of solders, while the individual solders have highly specialized uses for certain definite purposes. Several of the new alloy solders have proved so phenomenal in application that they have opened fields which were until recently the exclusive "prop-

erty" of riveting and welding. To avoid confusion, manufacturers are labeling the solders and fluxes according to their exact purpose and method of application. Those for the base metals and alloys are stocked by mill-supply houses; those for the precious metals by dealers in

jewelers' supplies and equipment.

Aluminum Soldering: Aluminum has defied soldering most persistently of all popular metals. When aluminum is heated, an invisible layer of oxide is formed on its surface, which prevents ordinary solder from reaching the metal. A special oxidecutting flux and a solder of zinc alloy have solved this problem if the proper method is applied carefully. Take for example a leaky aluminum pan: The surface to be soldered must be cleaned thoroughly with steel wool and then with emery cloth, after which the dust is brushed away and a generous drop of liquid flux is applied to the metal around the hole. With a torch, the metal is heated until the flux boils as indicated in Fig. 1/2 taking care that the flame does not touch the flux. As aluminum conducts heat very rapidly, a blowtorch, either of the alcohol or gasoline type, which provides intense heat, should be used. The flame is played on the surface in a circular

ing aluminum is heated by so that the latter will not solder is applied the instant ithat the flux goes up in a puff of smoke Aluminum ORCH UNTIL FLUX BOILS . (FLAME SHOULD HOT TOUCH FLUX) WHEN FLUX DRIES AND WHITE SMOKE ARISES, APPLY SOLDER CONTINUE HEATING UNTIL SOLDER FLOWS

> path as indicated by the arrow, until the flux boils. The flux lifts the oxide, but a single breath of the flame will replace it, so be sure to keep the torch moving well back from the hole. When the flux has boiled dry, it will suddenly go up in a puff of white smoke. Have your solder stick ready and apply it the instant the smoke appgars as in Fig. 2. Keep on heating the

BUILD BANK

ALONGSIDE HOLE

MOLTEN SOLDER WILL FLOW AND FILL THE JOINT

beell JUNE, 1940

Fills for broken castings

Cracked Cylinder Heads: Many cracked cylinder heads can be repaired for less than it would cost to replace them. Cast metal, be it iron or aluminum alloy, resists ordinary flux, but yields to a penetrating liquid which "bores" down into the metal itself, allowing the solder to knit in a positive bond. First, you chip a V-groove along the edges of the fracture as in Fig. 5, then preheat

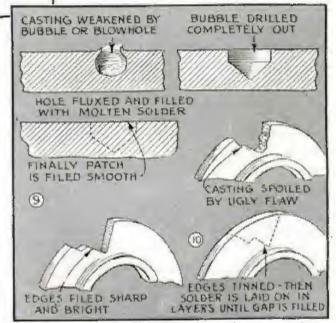
in a positive bond. First, you chip a V-groove along the edges of the fracture as in Fig. 5, then preheat the entire head slowly and evenly in an oven or with a heavy-duty torch as in Fig. 6, until the metal gets hot enough to melt solder when touched to it. When preheating, be sure to keep the flame away from the chipped portion. As soon as solder will melt on contact, the flux is applied. In the case of an iron cylinder head, the solder is applied as the flux boils away. In case of an aluminum cylinder head, solder is applied when the flux smokes. Then, by means of a wooden tamper, you ram the semi-liquid solder well down into the crack as shown in Fig. 7. Go over the crack repeatedly, building up and ramming the solder into it until it will take no more. Use extreme care not to warp the cylinder head by uneven heating or too rapid cooling. After it has cooled, the job is cleaned up by scrubbing thoroughly with a



A special penetrating flux bores down into the metal and allows the solder to knit in a positive bond. The casting is preheated and the solder is rammed down into the crack firmly

INTO FRACTURE

vessel and build up a bank of solder alongside the hole as in Fig. 3. The solder will presently melt, will slowly encircle the hole and at last fill it. Then you remove the heat gradually and allow the metal to cool. The plug, formed as shown in the right detail of Fig. 3, can be left as is, or it can be dressed down flush. The same solder and method also can be used on sheet copper, brass, iron or steel with equal success, but the white smoke is most noticeable when using the flux on aluminum.



Capillary fabrication

soap solution, Fig. 8, and the ridge of solder is filed down neatly as in Fig. 4.

Other Castings of Hard and Soft Metal: In general, castings run all the way from slush metal to steel and bronze, with a high percentage in the new aluminum-zinc alloy group. Pewter and Britannia metal, being softer than ordinary solder, are repaired with bismuth-alloy solder, which flows at

only 518 degrees F., about a hundred degrees less than lead. Alloy metals containing magnesium will take a zinc solder without flux. The casting is tinned with dry solder brushed on with steel wool or a wire brush, then bonded in the usual manner. For the very hard metals and castings, which must withstand hard service, a copper-base solder and proper flux are used. Stainless steel is soldered best with a solder containing antimony applied at about 900 degrees F. This solder will bond with Iconol, Monel, hard steel, bronze, gold and platinum.

Repairing Blowholes in Castings: Frequently a

SOCKET JOINT

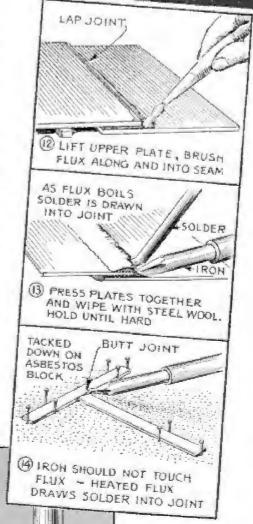
SOLDER FOLLOWS FLUX DOWN AROUND UPRIGHT FILLING SPACE

SETWEEN THE TWO PARTS

UPRIGHT FITTED

IN PLACE

(15)



The flux used with zinc-alloy solder causes the solder to enter a seam by capillary attraction and the joint produced will often be as strong as one which is riveted

casting is weakened or ruined by the presence of a tiny blowhole, although the casting may be perfect in all other respects. To repair a blowhole in any metal, select the proper solder and flux to use, then drill out the defect slightly larger than the hole as in Fig. 9. After heating the casting carefully, fill the hole with flux and apply solder in the manner already explained. When the casting has been allowed to cool, file the patch flush with the surrounding surface. Many of the solders that are in use will take plating, including chromium, and any defects

that have been patched in this way will be

concealed fully after plating.

Missing Parts of Castings Filled: Zincalloy solder can be patted and molded into shape and can be used frequently to build up missing sections on castings as illustrated in Fig. 10. After the casting has been prepared by filing down the broken edges until they are bright and preheating the metal as already explained, the brightened edges are tinned at high temperature, and the heat is slowly lowered while layer after layer of solder is applied until the gap has

COUNTERSINK

TO FORM WELL

HOLE IN BASE

"Jouch soldering"

been filled. Zinc-alloy solder is very sluggish in flowing and must be encouraged

with a metal or wooden paddle.

Help from Capillary Attraction: Zincalloy solder and its flux will also enter a seam by capillary attraction. Modelmakers and workers on delicate projects will find these of great value on many jobs. It is possible to solder joints which formerly had to be riveted or tapped and threaded. In the case of brass, bronze, aluminum and copper, the soldered joint is stronger than the metal itself. With this in view, model locomotives and engines, which run on live steam, can be built up from stock material and held together entirely by carefully soldered joints. On some delicate work, Figs. 11 to 14, an electric soldering iron should be used because it gives a uniform heat, but for socket joints in the larger sizes, Fig. 15, a blowtorch is desirable. In all work of this nature, the evaporating flux pulls the liquid solder along after it. If the flux dries before the joint is finished, add some more. A tiny quantity of solder will cover a vast area.

Electric-Arc Soldering: An electric arc, used for melting and welding is quite common, but it is not generally known that a small are has vast possibilities in the field of soldering. A low-voltage, heavy-duty transformer, carbon electrode, circuitcompleting clip and a foot switch, are all that is needed. Fig. 19 shows such a "touch"-soldering outfit, which the user plugs into any convenient 110-volt a.c. outlet. When turned on full, the tiny arc will produce heat at 4,000 degrees F., in which steel and bronze drip like melting ice. It takes only a few seconds to produce such heat, and the secret of operation is to use the foot switch to cut off the current the instant that the solder melts. On delicate work this is a split-second proposition. With the arc there is no need to clamp work in position, for fairly heavy pieces may be held in gloved hands, Fig. 16, soldered in a second and they will be cool and rigid in less than a minute. The intense heat of the electrode is confined to a limited area, which makes possible soldering that is difficult with either a blowtorch or a soldering iron, such as mending an open seam in an auto radiator, Fig. 17, where the

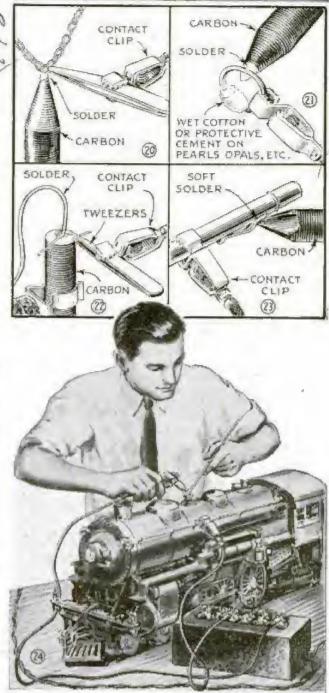


## with a carbon arc

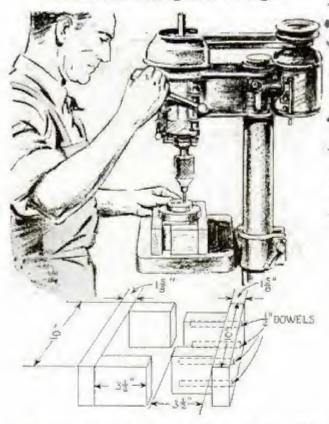
joint must be completed before near-by seams get hot enough to melt. Commutator leads and starting-coil connections that break usually mean taking down an electric motor to do a two-minute repair job. However, with this arc-soldering outfit. these leads can be reached and repaired in most motors by merely removing the end > plate and reaching inside the motor as . shown in Fig. 18. Oil and gas pipes on au tomobiles, refrigerating coils and other pipes also can be repaired easily. With ordinary soldering irons and torches these jobs are often very difficult because the copper conducts the heat away so rapidly. from the area to be soldered that sometimes the solder applied will not even melt. But with the arc, the intense heat suddenly applied over a relatively small area, is so great that the job is quickly accomplished in spite of the conductivity. An arc-soldering torch, which consists of a 10-tap/reactance coil in series with a carbon bolder, was described in the May, 1938, issue of Popular Mechanics, and a plan showing its construction is also available for those who wish to make one. In this arc torch, the two carbons are held in a V position so their ends can be touched together to start the arc and then allowed to separate slightly to keep it.

Tiny Joints: When used in conjunction with capillary solders, the electric are is capable of producing positive joints which are almost invisible. Figs. 20 to 24 inclusive show work such as done by jewelers. As you see, there are several methods of using the arc soldering outfit shown in Fig. 19. In these cases the solder is cut in tiny pieces and is laid in place against the joint, being held there by flux. On certain jobs it is advisable to pulverize the solder, mix it with lard and stick the paste in place. The lard goes up in smoke, and the flux handles the solder. For jewelry and model work, the quantity of solder needed is unbelievably small. Gold solder, silver solder and steel solder are obtainable in sheet form for all hard-soldering operations. Borax flux does not work in electric-arc soldering because it insulates the carbon and breaks the contact. There is a prepared solution available which will handle most hard-soldering jobs.





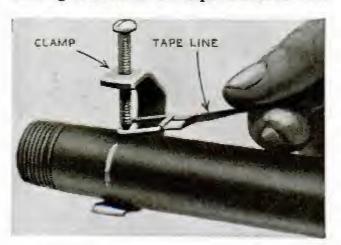
#### Drill Blocks Aid in Setting Up Work of Irregular Shape



In my work as a machinist, I find that blocks made similar to the ones shown are handy in setting up small work of irregular shape, for drilling or for working on a bench. Both blocks are identical and they are made of 2 by 4-in. pine. Use ½-in. dowels in assembling the blocks, as nails or screws would interfere with the drill bits—M. B. Birge, Hinsdale, Ill.

#### Small Clamp Holds End of Tape When Measuring Long Pipe

When working alone with long work such as pipe, and it is necessary to measure it, a small clamp such as used to ground radios to a water pipe will be helpful in holding one end of the tape measure. The



clamp will hold the measure securely without any chance of it slipping when pulled taut at the other end.

#### Cleaning Greasy Goggles

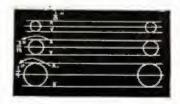
In one factory where goggles worn by the work-men often became coated with a film of oil and thus tempted the men to neglect eye protection, the foreman provided each



one with a small bottle of a mixture consisting of equal parts of water and alcohol. It took only a minute to clean the goggles with this mixture. A bottle like those used for hair tonic is ideal for the purpose, or a hole can be punched in a regular cork.

#### Spacing Parallel Lines Evenly

While doing some drafting work where it was necessary to draw parallel lines in pairs, each pair being equidistant from a



center line, I solved the problem of avoiding irregular lines when they were closer together than ¼ in, as

shown. A drop pen was used to draw circles having a diameter equal to the spacing desired for the lines, after which the lines were drawn in as indicated.

-F. H. Peterson, Monroe, La.

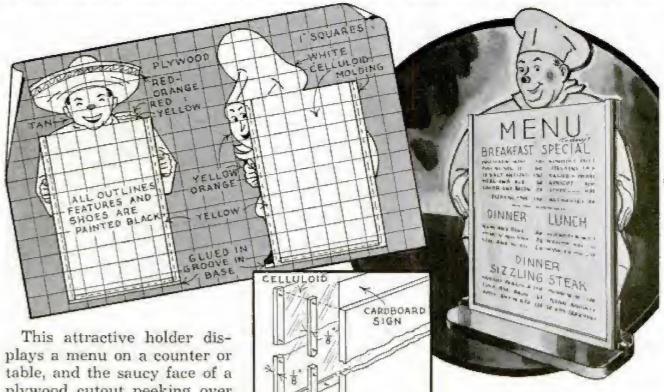
#### Slotless Mailbox Keeps Out Rain

Here is a mailbox that you can make in one evening, and there is no letter slot for moisture to enter. It consists of two parts, a box having three sides and the ends closed,



and a pivoted front. This is made like a V-shaped trough and is pivoted in the open side of the box, the pivots being located at the lower end as indicated.

#### Cutout Chefand Peon Hold Restaurant Menus



This attractive holder displays a menu on a counter or table, and the saucy face of a plywood cutout peeking over the edge invites your inspection. To make the holder, first saw the cutout from ½-in. plywood, and then make a base to support it from 1-in. pine. Groove the base through the

center to take the lower edge of the cutout, which is held in place by means of glue and small brackets. The grooves to accommodate the menu are made by tacking molding strips to the front of the figure. Spacing strips placed between the figure and molding form the grooves. A piece of clear

celluloid slipped into the grooves in front of the menu protects it so that it will not be soiled by handling.

### Pipe Threaded and Tapped to Make Emergency Bushings

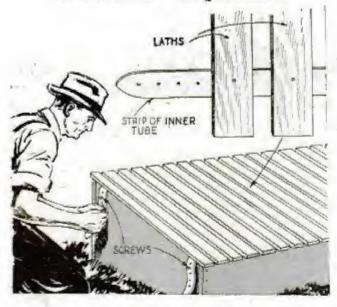
SPACING STRI

Pipe bushings can be made when none are available, by simply threading and tapping pieces of standard pipe. Data for bushings that can be made in this way are given in the table. For example, to bush from ¼ in. to 1/8 in. get a piece of extra heavy pipe. Drill or ream it with a 21/4-in, drill and then tap it with a 1/8-in. pipe tap, and thread the outside. Note that in one case, % in. to ¼ in., the internal diameter of 3/8-in, extra heavy pipe is such that reaming is unnecessary. Note also, that in bushing from 1/2 to 3/8 in. either extra heavy or double extra heavy pipe can be used. In making a bushing, the reaming, tapping and threading are done on the pipe before cutting off the desired length. —W. F. Schaphorst, Newark, N. J.

INCHES TO BUSH FROM	SIZE OF PIPE ,		SIZE OF DRILL	
to push reon	EXTRA	DOUBLE EXTRA	SIZE OF DRILL OR REAMER, INCHES	
4 10 %  3 10 %  4 10 %  4 10 %  4 10 36  4 10 36  4 10 36  10 16  10 16  10 16  10 16  10 16  10 16	% %	1/2 1/2	21/64 NONE 31/64 27/64 91/6 91/6 91/6 11/6 11/6 11/6 11/6	
2½ 10 2½ 2½ 10 2 3 10 2½ 3½ 10 3 4 10 3½ 4½ 10 4		2½ 2½ 3 3½ 44	2 9/16 2 9/16 3 9/16 3 9/16 4 9/16	-1
4				1

JUNE, 1940

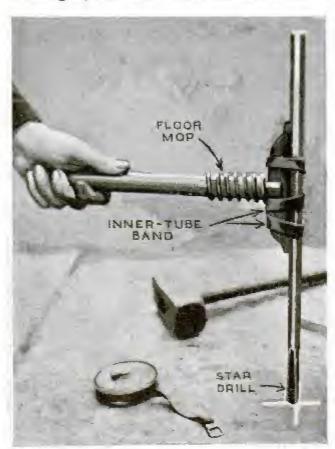
## Cold Frame Cover Is Adjusted to Control Temperature



To protect plants in a cold frame from direct rays of the sun or from extreme changes in temperature, one gardener uses an adjustable lattice for a cover. The lattice is made by tacking pieces of wood to strips of inner tube. Stretching the rubber strips spaces the slots.

#### Handle for Long Chisel or Drill

The next time you have to use a long chisel or star drill and have no tongs for holding it, use the handle of an old floor



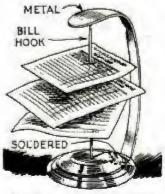
or scrubbing mop. The groove formed where the mop jaws meet provides a good bed for the chisel so that the handle can be attached with heavy rubber bands.

#### Rubber on Plasterer's Hawk Protects the Hand

Slipped over the handle of a plasterer's hawk, a sponge-rubber disk will prevent pressure of the hawk from causing the hand to become sore. The disk can be cut from a ten-cent kneeling pad.



#### Metal Strip on Spindle Bill Holder Guards Against Injury



To avoid any possibility of his workers accidentally injuring themselves on the pointed end of a spindle-type bill holder or bill hook sitting on his counter, one storekeeper fitted a

shield over the pointed end of the spindle. This consisted of a piece of spring brass bent to the shape indicated and soldered to the base of the holder.

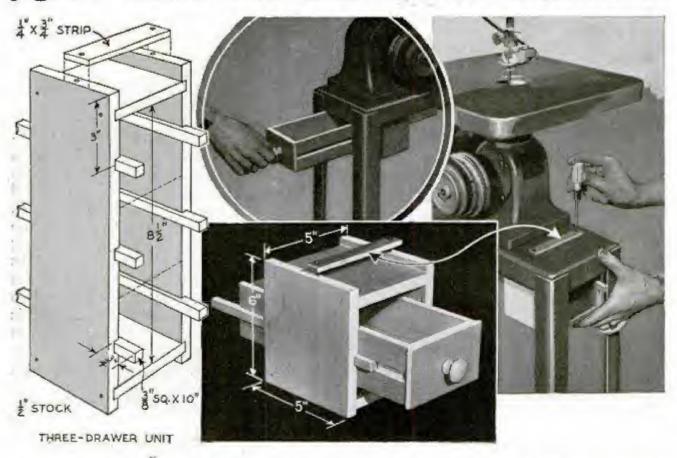
#### Binder Twine Prevents Chickens from Flying over Fence

Noticing that chickens in flying over a fence into his yard, always flew to the plainly visible top wire of the fence, one farmer stretched a



single strand of binder twine along the posts on the side opposite to that on which the wire was fastened. Then when the chickens flew, they always tried to alight on the twine, encountered the wire barrier and dropped back onto the ground.

### Jigsaw Stand Has Drawers for Accessories



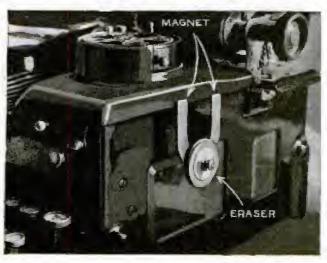
Jigsaw accessories such as saw blades, auxiliary jaws, machine wrenches, etc., are less apt to become misplaced when stored in one or more small drawers suspended beneath the top of the metal stand, and are always within easy reach. While dimensioned above to fit a stand of the type shown in the photo at the upper right, the exact size to make the unit depends, of course, upon the stand in which it is to be installed and must, therefore, be made to fit accordingly. As can be seen, the sides of the drawers are grooved to slide on %-

in. runners which are glued and bradded in corresponding grooves cut across the inner faces of the upright side pieces. The box and drawer front are made of ½-in. material, while ¼-in. stock is best for the drawer sides. A narrow wood strip, placed over original holes in the top of the stand and fitted with two screws, as shown, clamps the unit in a position to allow the drawers to slide freely between the front legs of the stand. If the base of your jigsaw is recessed on the bottom, it can be set over the strip to conceal it.

#### Magnetic Eraser Holder Clings to Side of Your Typewriter

Fasten your typewriter eraser to a small horseshoe magnet and it will cling to the metal of your typewriter so that it will always be at hand when needed. A tiny bolt will attach the eraser to the magnet. It may be necessary to scrape the paint from the typewriter frame at the point where you wish to have the magnet cling to it.—C. A. Oldroyd, Barrow-in-Furness, Lancs., England.

¶It is easy to pick up sheets of paper rapidly if a small amount of glycerin is applied to the finger tips.



#### Removal of Fruit from Barrel Simplified with Tray



A merchant who dispenses apples, potatoes, etc., directly from barrels in his store improves the appearance of partly emptied barrels and simplifies removal of the contents in small quantities with this tray. It is made from heavy wire, the side stay wires being bent to a hook shape at the upper ends to fit over the side of the barrel. After the contents have been lowered sufficiently to make room for it, the tray is filled and placed in the barrel.

—Opie Read, Jr., Chicago.

#### Reflector Protects Mailbox



Rural mailboxes are often knocked over at night by motorists who in passing other cars on narrow roads, sometimes get off the pavement slightly and do not see the boxes in time to avoid them. To help prevent this, one farmer placed a red reflector on the

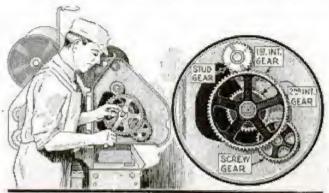
standard of his box as indicated. The reflector should be fastened to the post about 30 in. above the ground. At this height, it will be sure to reflect the light of cars coming toward it.

-John M. Avery, Holley, N. Y.

#### Changing Lathe Gears in Pairs Saves Time

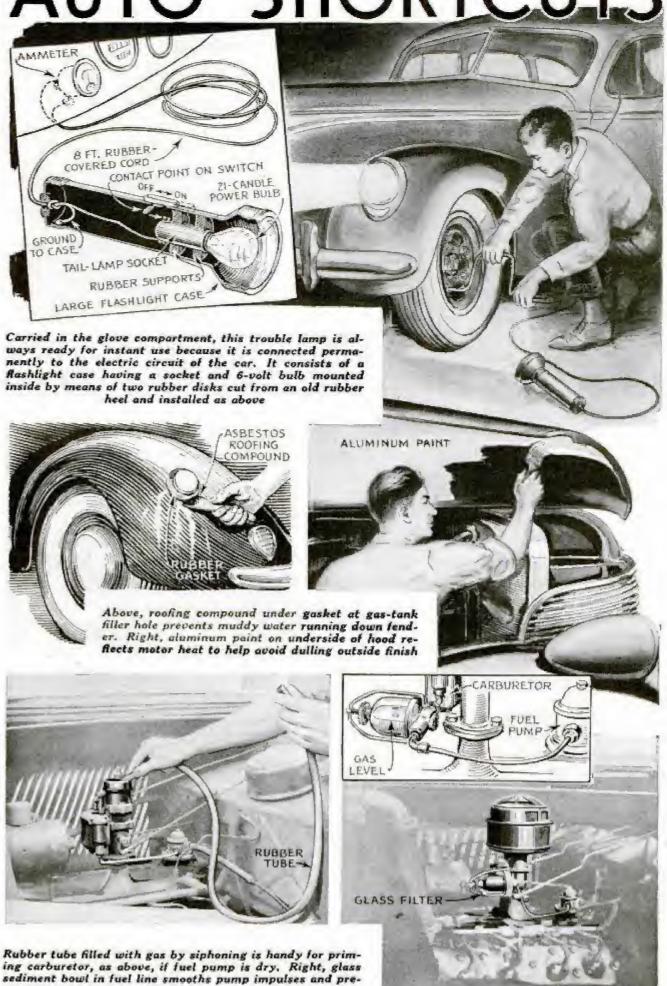
In small shops a general-purpose screwcutting lathe is often used to handle a great variety of work for which desirable feeds cover a considerable range, and much time is required to change the gears. The time-consuming part of setting the yoke and intermediate gear pivot, getting the intermediate gear center in the right place, can be speeded up by changing the gears in pairs, with the pairs selected so that the sum of the teeth in each pair is the same. The application of this idea to my lathe is as follows: Gears available were 24, 32, 36, 40, 42, 44, 45, 46, 48, 52, 54, 56, 60, 80 and 96-tooth. By cut and try, the table for longitudinal feeds worked out as shown. It will be seen that the sum of the teeth for the stud gear and the first intermediate one is 92 in each case, and as the sum is constant, the proper center distance for each of these pairs is the same. Thus eight feeds from .005 to .017 in. per. spindle revolution are available by selecting the proper pair for the first gears in the train without making any other changes.

—Walter T. Gorton, Washington, D. C.



STUD GEAR	FIRST INT.	SECOND INT. GEAR	SCREW GEAR	FEED, IN. PER REV. OF SPINDLE
32 36 40 44 48 52 56	56 52 48 44 40 332	4 4 7 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2	54 54 54 54 54 54 54 54 54	.005 .006 .007 .008 .010
32 36 40 44 40 52 56	60 552 48 44 40 355	54 54 54 54 54 54 54 54 54	*********	.008 .009 .011 .013 .018 .019





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vents surging as the fuel enters the carburetor

#### Flashlight on Door Illuminates Ground When Leaving Car



As most motorists carry a flashlight, why not keep it in a holder near the bottom of the door so that it can be turned on to illuminate the ground when leaving the car at night? The holder is made from cloth to match the upholstering material, and is sewed to the fabric on the door.

#### Broken Speedometer Chains Removed with Breast Drill

It a speedometer chain breaks and twists up inside the housing, it can be removed easily with the aid of a breast drill. Just put the end of the chain in the drill chuck and turn it in the opposite direction from which it rotates inside the housing.

-William Searles, W. Nanticoke, Pa.

#### Repairing Sockets in Reflectors of Headlamps



When a socket loosens in the reflector of a headlamp, the lights will be dim or will flicker unless the socket is soldered tightly in place. A good way to do this without heat of the soldering iron damaging the silvered surface of the reflector, is to submerge it in water to within about ¼ in. of the area to which the socket is to be fastened. The water will dissipate the heat fast enough to avoid discoloring the reflector.

#### Spoon Holder Serves as Memo Clip on Door Handle of Truck

Truck drivers sometimes desire to leave a memo on their locked trucks for someone who may arrive while they are away from them. A metal spoon holder of the type



shown is handy for this purpose. It slips over the door handle easily and the coiled portion will hold a piece of folded paper.

#### Tool Rack for Outside Work

When working on your car at home you usually do it outside where there is plenty of light, with the result that tools are laid on the ground where they often become



dirty or misplaced. A grill taken from an old stove oven serves nicely as a tool rack for outside work. It can be supported with bricks at the corners and you can see at a glance just the tool that you want.

#### Battery Charged While Making Minor Repairs on Car

We often have a car come in with the battery run down by the owner trying to start it when something was wrong with the starter or ignition system. While the repair is being made, which may take a half hour or so, we hook a charger to the battery right in the car. In this length of time, the battery usually has stored enough current to start the car with a little to spare. To do the charging easily, no matter where the car is set, we ran two cables from the charger along one wall of the repair room and provided outlet sockets every car width. With this arrangement we just plug in a couple of cables from one of the sockets to the car battery.

-H. W. Swope, Danville, Pa.

#### Stopping Squeaks in Shackle Bolt

Before going to the expense of replacing squeaky shackles of the composition-mounted type (not rubber mounted) with new ones, try the following methods of stopping the noise. Apply penetrating oil to the shackle, at the same time striking the main spring leaf sharply with a hammer to aid the oil in penetrating around the bolt. If this doesn't stop the squeak, remove the shackle links and turn the bolt with a socket wrench while applying oil.

#### Shield Slipped over Door Handles Protects Car Finish in Garage

One motorist who kept his car in a public garage found that the finish on the side of the car was often marred by the handle when the door was opened on the car in the next stall. To avoid this trouble, he cut a piece of cardboard as shown and slipped it over the door handles whenever he put the car in the garage.



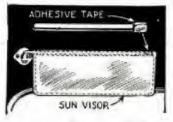
#### Strap Handle Aids in Removing Spare Tire from Trunk



Difficulty of removing a spare tire that is carried in the trunk in the position shown, can be avoided by fitting it with a strap handle. This consists of a leather handle similar to one used on a suitcase with two straps fastened to it and buckled around the tire.

#### Adhesive Tape Repairs Sun Visor

When the hinged sun visor loosened on its shaft so that vibration of the car caused it to drop, one motorist repaired it with a



strip of tape. This was wound around the shaft to increase its diameter and produce enough friction to hold the visor in place.

#### Doorbell Locates Short Circuit in Car Wiring

The next time you have a short circuit in the electrical system of your car and it seems almost impossible to locate it, a 6-volt doorbell may solve the problem. Remove the fuse in the wiring and connect the bell to the clips that held the fuse. Then remove all the light bulbs and turn on all the car switches. Now go over the wiring, shaking and pulling it lightly. When the wires short circuit, the bell will ring.

#### Auto Hood Clamps Hold Gasoline Pan on Workbench

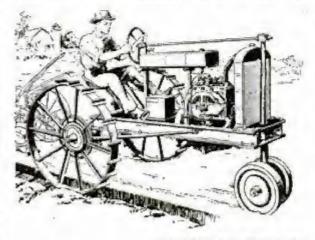


After having the gasoline pan for washing small parts accidentally upset a time or two, a mechanic clamped it to the workbench. The clamps were taken from an old auto hood, and were screwed to the bench top. These enabled him to attach or remove the pan instantly.

#### Heat from Exhaust of Tow Truck Aids in Starting Stalled Car

Needing some method of applying heat to thaw frozen radiators and pumps, or to aid in starting motors stalled on the road during winter, one garageman used the exhaust gases from his service or tow truck. To do this, he installed a cutout in the exhaust pipe close to the motor, and from there ran a long length of flexible tubing. With this arrangement, hot exhaust gases could be directed on the radiator or other parts to be warmed.

#### How to Build a Farm Tractor in Your Spare Time



Having plenty of power to pull a two-bottom plow and other implements, this farm tractor, built from old car parts, includes a Ford model-A motor and twin transmissions giving six speeds forward. Wrenches, hacksaw and drill are about the only tools needed—welding can be done at your local machine shop. Set of three 17 by 22-in. plans, Nos. 1024 to 1026 incl., containing all necessary constructional details and a list of materials needed will be sent postpaid upon receipt of 75c.

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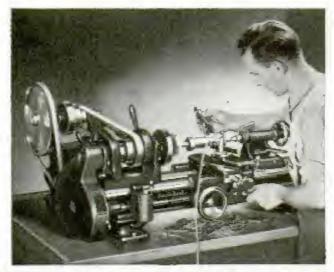
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City	

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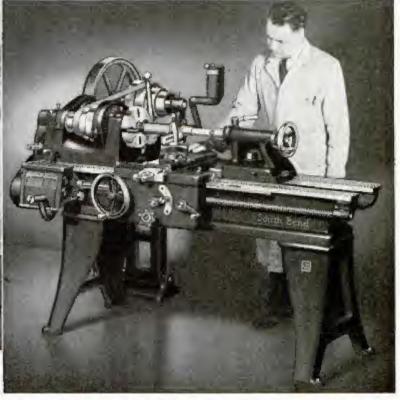


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### LATHE BUILDERS FOR 33 YEARS

JUNE, 1940 115A

Solving Crime with the Camera

(Continued from page 859)

time is lost by their use. It takes only a few seconds to set one up on its tripod, and its flexibility of focusing and adjustment makes it possible to photograph anything from a landscape to a pin—on a full-size negative that needs no enlargement.

Even the motion-picture camera is being used in certain types of crimes, both to secure evidence and to present it in court. Movies of mob scenes and riots enable po-



Here is some of the field equipment used by special agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation

lice to pick out the ringleaders and particularly violent participants and convict them, when no other acceptable evidence could be obtained.

The F.B.I. recently used amateur movie cameras to defeat a pair of war risk insurance frauds. In one case a veteran claimed he was totally disabled by a leg injury received in service, so that he was unable to earn a living. When investigators found he had a large bank account, was operating a prosperous chicken farm, he produced witnesses to prove the farm was owned and operated by his wife—that he was unable to assist her.

A special agent, taking advantage of ill feeling existing between the veteran and a neighbor, obtained permission to take motion pictures from the window of her home. His films showed the "totally disabled veteran" going about his strenuous chores without a limp, even cutting the grass with a lawnmower. The case died before it came to trial.

In the other case a veteran claimed total blindness. At the first trial the jury disagreed, though the judge was convinced the man was "a consummate actor, quite capable of sustaining the role of a blind person and of collecting money from the government in that guise."

A special agent, secreting himself in a shed near by, photographed the veteran walking about without the use of glasses and cane, even running up and down the back steps without bothering to use the rail. The second jury, after viewing the films, immediately brought a verdict for the government.

Not only does the camera record evidence that the eye can see, but it reveals evidence invisible to the eye. A thrifty New York murderer was caught wearing a shirt with the bloodstains of his victim on the collar—completely washed away, as he thought. But though the eye could not see the stains, the camera recorded them when the suspect was "mugged." Chemical analysis showed the invisible stains to be blood. The murderer promptly confessed.

Infrared photography leaped across a continent to implicate a Utah motorcar thief in a Georgia bank robbery. When arrested at Ogden the suspect had a leather money bag on his person, but the bag apparently bore no clue as to whence it came. Under microscopic examination it was thought that traces of obliterated printing were present. Photographed under infrared rays, the obliterated printing could be read easily—the name of a bank in La Grange, Ga. A telegram to La Grange quickly implicated the thief with a robbery there.

The latest use found for the mechanical memory is to "fingerprint" precious gems. All diamonds, rubies, and other precious stones contain flaws—bubbles, fissures—which do not detract from the value of the gem, but do identify it. Insurance companies take microphotographs of gems on which they issue policies. If stolen, copies of these photos are broadcast to police, jewelers, and pawnbrokers, making it virtually impossible to dispose of the stone undetected.

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## You may worry about the stork



## but here is one worry you can avoid

When the old boy with the long bill steps into your life, you've got to pace the floor and like it.

But why in the name of Harry anyone should worry about chassis lubrication is beyond your Texaco Dealer.

Let him Marfak your car every 1,000 miles and you'll have Peace Of Mind on that score.

No more fret about whether he got that grease cup or checked the battery and tires.

Marfak is Texaco's standardized 40-Point Lubrication Service—and when the job is done you know it's thorough and dependable.

The service, in fact, takes its name from Marfak-the famous lubricant that is so tough it lasts twice as long as ordinary grease.

Sure, you want that Peace Of Mind this extra protection gives. Drive in and let us Marfak your car.

TEXACO DEALERS INVITE YOU TO tune in the TEXACO STAR THEATRE—A full hour of all-star entertainment—Every Wednesday night—Columbia Network—9:00 E.D.T., 8:00 E.S.T., 8:00 C.D.T., 7:00 C.S.T., 6:00 M.S.T., 5:00 P.S.T.



TEXACO'S 40-POINT LUBRICATION SERVICE AT ALL TEXACO AND OTHER GOOD DEALERS

JUNE, 1940 117A

KIH

#### Science Rules the Cinders

(Continued from page 869)

cent. The old hurdlers sailed over the barriers. Today's champion clears the timber with the barest margin, snaps the leading leg straight down, hits the ground sprinting. He has learned that he travels faster on the ground than in the air. The low and 400-meter hurdles require stamina, the ability to take the hurdles in stride, rather than the technique and form required in the 120-yard event. The hurdles them-



Javelin throwing is one field event in which perfection of form is highly important

selves have been improved. The swinging hurdle has lessened injuries, encouraged hurdlers to clear it with the least possible clearance.

Among the cream of the world's athletes at the Athens Olympic Games thirty-four years ago, not a man could clear 5 feet 10 inches in the running high jump. Today the record is 6 feet 9¾ inches. This remarkable improvement is due to an intensive study of body mechanics, combined with superior jumping facilities. The new

techniques are not natural jumping motions; rather they are intricate gymnastics performed in mid-air.

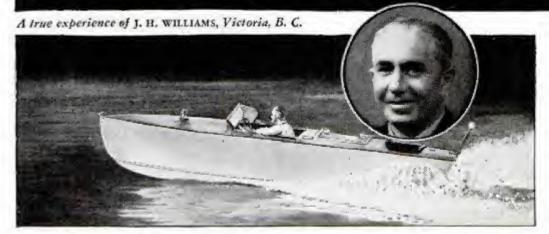
The first Olympic pole-vault winner cleared 10 feet 93/4 inches. It was considered remarkable when Gilbert and Cooke, using the new bamboo pole instead of the spruce pole, cleared 12 feet in 1908. In those days the tip of the pole was spiked, the spike being driven into a hole or a platform of wooden blocks when the leap was made. Vaulters really began to soar when the boxlike vaulting trough was introduced. Sabin Carr cleared 13 feet 91/2 inches in 1928. Since then Sefton and Meadows have raised the mark to 14 feet 11 inches. The vault is really a gymnastic event; since success is based absolutely on mechanics of form, modern coaching methods have had more effect here than on the more natural forms of competition.

The shot put calls for more scientific coordination than any other field event. Hence it is hardly surprising that the present record shows a sixty per cent improvement over the first Olympic mark of 36 feet 2 inches. The present world record, held by Jack Torrance, is 57 feet 1 inch.

Seventy feet have been added to the discus mark of 95 feet 7½ inches made by Garrett at the first Olympic games. Part of this improvement came by increasing the circle from seven feet to 8 feet 2 inches. But science has also had a big hand in raising the mark. Today's streamlined discus is cut with the grain running along its face instead of vertically through the wood. Greater weight is put on the rim by eliminating interior rings and shrinking a dropforged ring flush with the wood around its perimeter, increasing spin by a flywheel effect, New York University's wind-tunnel tests show that the discus travels farther against the wind than with it. A head wind provides a vacuum over the discus, which gives lift to keep it in the air longer.

That the javelin-throw record has increased from 175 feet to 258 feet in thirty years is in part due to greater interest in the event, with consequent refinement of throwing technique. Moreover, the improved javelin is stiffer, has less whip and can fly truer. Its balance permits it to be thrown on a flatter trajectory, yet still maintain altitude.

## TERROR STRICKEN, I LEAPT TOWARD THE SINISTER SHAPE!



"ONE BLACK NIGHT I was returning to Vancouver, in my 15-foot inboard motorboat," writes Mr. Williams. "Suddenly, a dark and sinister shape loomed up directly ahead. There was no time to avoid it.

"I LEAPT as the boat crashed into the object—and found myself sitting on a crossbeam of a huge log boom that was being towed by a distant tug. My boat was gone. Shivering with cold, I shouted in vain—the tug was too far away for my voice to reach it.





"AFTER HOURS OF TORTURE, the night became stormy and the tug skipper shortened his line. Again I shouted—and this time a flashlight on the tug picked me out with its powerful beam. To the 'Eveready' fresh DATED batteries in that flashlight I probably owe my life—and you can take it from me, I am an 'Eveready' convert now.

The word "Eveready" is a registered trade-mark of National Carbon Co., Inc.



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## GRANDMA CALLED IT SINFUL

IN MY DAY we women couldn't do much about those bristles on the manly chin that scraped like sin. But nowadays any woman's a fool to put up with one of those human porcupines. Which reminds me, my dear, Margie has picked the most delightful



young man—always so well groomed—he must shave twice a day—yet his skin's never the least bit irritated looking. It's what Margie calls a Barbasol Face.



YOUR OWN WIFE or sweetheart would be a lot happier, too, if you got yourself a Barbasol Face. Barbasol not only gives you the clean-

est, smoothest, sweetest shave you ever had—its beneficial oils protect your skin from razor irritation while you shave—and leaves it feeling softer, smoother, and fresher after you shave. That's why Barbasol has changed the shaving habits of a nation. (Your druggist sells Barbasol in three sizes, 25¢, 50¢, 75¢. Five Barbasol Blades, 15¢.)

No Brush . No Lather . No Rub-in

#### 20,000 Feet Down for Oil

(Continued from page 875)

recovered. It had snapped again. Half a dozen times the pipe was engaged, breaking off a few hundred feet each time without stirring the lower end. Finally the derrick itself buckled under the strain of pulling against the force that held the bit in the earth, and the well was abandoned.

Sometimes a new development in production brings its own difficulties. Several years ago it was found that production in



Drill boss at controls by which he governs speed of rotation of drill and weight on drilling bit

old or poor wells could be stimulated by pumping acid down into the formations, opening up the sands so that oil could flow more freely. Many old fields were rejuvenated by this method and then it was learned that thousands of miles of pipe lines and scores of refineries were being ruined by corrosion from salts produced by the acidizing treatment. In some cases the tubes of refining stills were blocked solidly by salt. The engineers had to develop a method of electrical desalting that removes all but a trace of the salt from the crude. Now acidizing is being continued without harmful results.

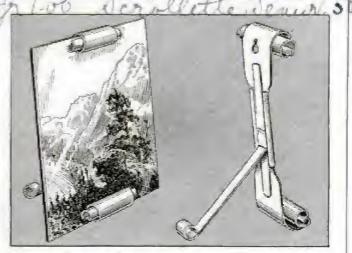
Every oil field is marked by a forest of derricks, though the main usefulness of the Klb

derricks ended when drilling was finished. They are left standing because the tubing and other equipment of producing wells occasionally need to be pulled out and cleaned. Portable truck-mounted derricks with telescoping sections are being tried out to avoid the expense of permanent derricks in shallow fields. Such an outfit can drill as many as eighteen shallow wells a year and then service the wells whenever necessary.

In the laboratory, research on breaking down the hydrocarbons of petroleum is continuing. Theoretically it ought to be easy to manufacture gasoline from the two elements of which it is composed but science can't yet duplicate the petroleum that nature created. One step toward this goal is suggested in the recent discovery that certain hydrogen atoms can be made radioactive by means of the atom-smashing cyclotron. It may be that the hydrogen atoms of petroleum can be "tagged" this way in the laboratory so that they can be traced while the petroleum is put through various oxygenation, polymerization, and cracking processes. This may solve many of the unanswered questions about petroleum.

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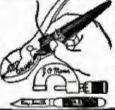
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CATCH FISH! 46

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You plow, disc, cultivate, mow, haul, do belt work, for about 33c a day. Bufe, trouble-free loog life. New plow lift, new rowerse. Hundreds used. Save by buying from maker. Two weeks trial. FREE catalog. Write today. PIONEER MFG. COMPANY Dept. V-60 West Allia, Wis.

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### The World's Shock Absorber

(Continued from page 895)

effectively absorb energy and at the same time retain its original form. The day is close at hand when all vibrating machinery will be mounted on rubber, thus prolonging the life of the structures which house such machinery and the life of the machinery itself.

Making a name for itself in the foodpackaging field is another product derived from rubber. Coming in sheets of various thickness, clear or opaque, in a wide range of colors, this product is impervious to air or moisture and makes a completely sealed package by application of heat to the seams. First used in making raincoats, umbrellas and other waterproof garments, this material is finding wide use as decorative wrappings for packages of all sorts. Colorful ribbons are made from it, and it is estimated that enough of this ribbon to festoon both sides of a coast-to-coast highway was used to add beauty to 1939 Christmas packages.

Rubber base paints are available for protection of many surfaces, while rubber cement is useful in certain operations. Rubber impregnated fabrics, known for years in the manufacture of balloons and airships, are extending their usefulness, and we now have especially treated bags in use in bulk gasoline storage plants. where they catch the gasoline-saturated vapors and reduce to a minimum evaporation losses which run into millions of dollars annually. Rubberized fabric boats that occupy small space and may be inflated quickly, are carried by airplanes flying over water, and sportsmen use them in lakes and streams where conventional boats may not be taken. Tanks and pipes used for storage or conveying of acids now may be lined with a rubber composition that resists the action of the acids. Use of rubber flooring and wall rubber is specified in modern homes, hospitals, office buildings, trains and ocean liners.

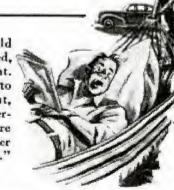
Through the building industry, the modern conveniences of our homes and offices, the operating rooms of hospitals, and through mines and factories the threads of vulcanized rubber are woven back and forth in the fashioning of the fabric of modern living.

(Continued to page 125A)

"I certainly am

NOT loafing"

ME LOAFING? I should say not! When Susan called, I was merely deep in thought. "I know I am supposed to polish the car," I said. "But, Susan, you do not understand. I have been lying here inventing a new and easier method for polishing autos."



"WELL, you can stop inventing right now," said Susan, pointing to the No. 7 Polish ad in my magazine. "Somebody beat you to it. And if this polish is as easy to use as everybody says it is, even you can shine the car quickly. Now get goin'!"

stuck her head out the window and shouted: "Stop gawking at the neighbors' new car and get that polish!" "But, Susan," I replied, "this is our car. It was so easy polishing it with No. 7 I think I'll go into the car-polishing business!"



# POLISH AND ELVANED

### DU PONT Nº 7 POLISH

made by the makers of DUCO\* and DULUX\*

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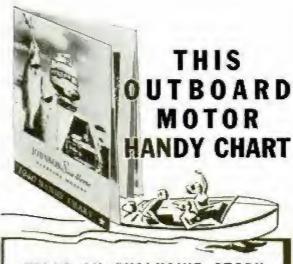
DU PONT CO., Dept. 3-MP, Wilmington, Del. Please send me a sample of the improved No. 7 Polish—enough for hood and fenders. I enclose 6¢ to help cover mailing costs.

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RUBBER-POWERED BUT IT LOOKS AND FLIES LIKE A GAS MODEL!

Scaled down from the champion Comet Zipper, designed by Carl Goldberg, Detachable wing, finished cylinder, bent landing gear, finished prop, plenty of fresh, peppy rubber, etc. Big 32" wingspan; amazingly complete kit. Ask for Kit No. P8, \$1; postage 15c, none if ordered from dealer.

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\$13.95 Full Set

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TRACTORS

POND GARDEN TRACTOR CO., Box 216, Dept. 106, Ravenna, O.

Say you saw it in Popular Mechanics!

(Continued from page 123A)

All this we have. And much more is to come.

In fixing rubber's position in modern civilization it is possible to say that 4,000,-000 persons, the world over, are employed in the rubber business; it also may be pointed out that almost \$3,000,000,000 are invested in the facilities for the growing, manufacture and distribution of rubber; we may consider the fact that there are more than 50,000 different and useful products made of rubber and that more than 2,000,000,000 pounds of pure rubber are consumed in a normal year.

But such measurements are inadequate. I believe we get closer to the real answer when we think of our social and economic structure as a living thing, the skeleton of which is composed of metal and stone, the arterial system of which carries a life stream of oil, and the flexing muscles and sinews of which are of rubber.

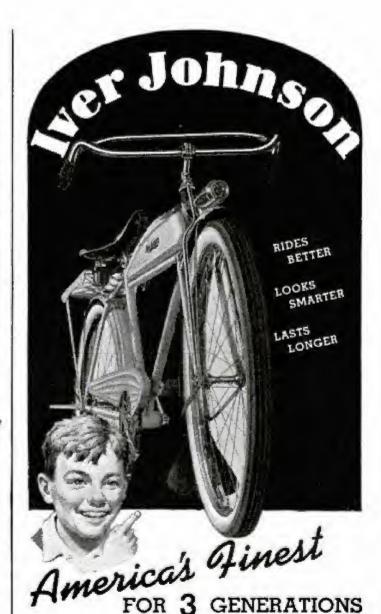
### Making Your Voice Do Tricks

(Continued from page 885)

coils and electrical filters. From its loud speaker, when a trained operator manipulates the keys, come sounds resembling vowels and consonants. The vowels and consonants may be combined into words, at the will of the operator, and simulation of the human voice is completed by operation of the foot pedal which raises and lowers the pitch. A synthetic speaker doing electrically what one does in talking, by controlling through keys sources of sound corresponding to vocal cords and breath, the Voder is expected to play an important part in telephone research and engineering. Both the Voder and Vocoder are outgrowths of research by Homer W. Dudley in electrical analysis and synthesis of speech.

Among the interesting devices for testing the voice is the oscilloscope, which permits the subject to "see" his voice. A regular telephone set is connected to the input of an amplifier, the output of which is connected to a vibrating mirror assembly. The mirror vibrates with an amplitude corresponding to the volume of speech impressed on the transmitter and with a frequency corresponding to the frequency of sound on the transmitter. An optical sys-

(Continued to page 126A)



This is our pledge to you that every Iver Johnson is tops for quality. Your dad learned this was true. So will you. An Iver Johnson is a true pal for thousands of happy miles. More than 20 models to choose from. Streamlined design: stunning colors; costly steel frame; drop-forgings at all

vital parts — an Iver Johnson HAS EVERYTHING, Send for Bicycle Folder B 66.

### Here's Another Winner!

— the Iver Johnson Self-Cocking .22 Single Shot Bolt Action Safety Rifle. Loaded. cocked and locked with one operation of hand. Only \$5.75. Send for Folder A 66 featuring this swell rifle: also Target Revolvers and Shotguns.

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WHITE MAN SANI-FLUSH-NEED SANI-FLUSH-NEED OUT RADIATOR!
CLEAN OUT RADIATOR
PRICE - ONE SHINY
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You are never very far from a can of Sani-Flush. You'll find it in most bathrooms for cleaning toilets. So don't wait for a car radiator to hiss and boil. Keep it cleaned out. Use Sani-Flush twice a year. See directions on can.

It cannot injure motor or fittings. It removes rust, scale, sediment and sludge. Your car runs cooler. Power is saved. You may save on expensive repair bills due to overheating. Clean out the radiator yourself for 10c (25c for the largest truck or tractor). Or ask your service station to do the job for you. Insist on Sani-Flush. Sold by grocery, drug, hardware, and 5-and-10c stores. 10c and 25c sizes. The Hygienic Products Co., Canton, Ohio.

# Sani-Flush





MAKE MONEY WITHOUT SELLING

30c returns \$4.50

Step into big money with "King Jr", \$3.93. Vends breath peleta, nuts, gum, enedy. Place in threme, stores, whiting tooms, etc. Stort small—full or spare time. Ger FREE Incts today.

AUTOMATIC GAMES. 2425-V Fullerton. Chicago

# Rheumatism Relieve Pain in Few Minutes or Money Back

To relieve the torturing pain of Neuritis, Rheumatism, Neuralgia or Lumbago in a few minutes, get NURITO, the fine formula, used by thousands. No opiates. Does the work quickly—must relieve cruel pain to your satisfaction in a few minutes—or your money back. Don't suffer. Clip this ad now as a reminder to ask your druggist for NURITO today.

(Continued from page 125A)

tem produces a spot of light on the vibrating mirror, which reflects it eventually to a screen so that voice vibrations appear on the screen as a light wave pattern, giving a picture of the sound of your voice.

A stereophonic demonstration by Bell engineers gives a hint of what may be accomplished on the stage in the future. Several persons seated together carry on a conversation heard through loud speakers. After a few minutes, they leave their chairs, the floor revolves and another stage is presented, with chairs similarly placed. In the chairs, however, are dummies. All that the human group said is now repeated through the loud speakers and this reproduction, accomplished by magnetic tape recording, is stereophonic so that the reproduced sounds appear to come from the same place on the stage as they did originally—thus, each dummy seems to have a part in the conversation. This apparatus is believed to offer a means of creating unusual effects on the stage and in symphony orchestra productions.

Strict privacy in telephonic or radio communication is provided by speech-scrambling machines. Words spoken into the transmitter are garbled so that they are unintelligible to anyone listening in, but the unscrambling receiver reproduces them exactly as spoken.

Among recent developments is a portable telephone which gets its power solely from the speaker's voice and will transmit speech over 200 miles. A small, powerful magnet is its secret, voice currents being generated when the flux from the magnet is influenced by a diaphragm vibrating under the sound waves. The portable phone finds wide use in railroad yards, ships, coal mines, construction camps and similar locations.

Bell scientists may appear to be playing tricks on you and your voice, but they're really creating instruments that will make it easier for you to telephone your grocer a block away or a friend perhaps twothirds of the way around the world.

[New York had but a slight lead over California in auto, truck and bus registrations last year, New York counting 2,634,-285 to California's 2,605,147, while Pennsylvania's 2,099,234 was the only other passing the two-million mark.

Wear HORSEHIDE HANDS and Save Your Own!

YOU'LL think Horsehide Hands are never going to wear out. That's how tough they are. But, more amazing still — they're soft as buckskin - stay soft always - even dry soft after soaking. That's because



they're tanned a secret way known only to Wolverine tanners - the same ones who tan leather for the famous Wolverine Shell Horsehide Work Shoes. If your dealer can't supply you, send his name and 75c. We'll mail you a pair postpaid. Ask for style 569. Wolverine Shoe & Tanning Corp., Dept. H-111, Rockford, Michigan.

THEY'RE TOUGH!

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# Our Flying Navy

(Continued from Coloroto Section)

tended flight by dead reckoning you see beginners struggling around the bay in primary seaplanes, and realize you've come a long way. Looking ahead toward the time when you'll be flying over hundreds of miles of water, where every wave looks alike and navigating ability means life or death, you tackle instrument flying with zest and move up confidently to Squadron Four and its twin-engined flying boats.

Now you look over at close hand the huge seaplane that stirred your first desire to fly. The instructor says you are to do horizontal bombing, navigate at sea and fix positions by dead reckoning and celestial navigation. But first, to fly the boat. The old familiar stick is now a wheel. And you sense that all these tons won't answer so quickly to the controls. At last you're allowed to take it up, and you feel that you're flying the hangar itself. In six hours you're able to lift her off the water properly and land, taxiing on one motor despite wind and current.

Time now to try practical application of the textbook on bombing. With a fellow student at the controls, 10,000 feet up, you kneel over the bomb sight to find the barely visible target, turn the knobs till you're "on," pull the toggle and the bomb drops. Down, down, nearly two miles, then a splash. Generally a miss, but soon enough come the thrills of perfect hits.

Later on there's fun, if it is tough, in navigational problems—"Find your object, whereabouts unknown." And as a parting test in "Advanced Seaplanes" you ride the catapult. Taking the instructor's advice you relax and don't try to fly the plane till it's in the air. It isn't a very long wait!

Squadron Five, "Advanced Landplanes," puts you in a single-seat fighter, and for the first time you take up a new-type plane without friendly advice coming in through your gosport. Single-seater tactics call for the highest physical and mental coordination. After grueling hours of drill you're able to put on an acceptable show of advanced acrobatics for the official board, but you have to do a full repeat simply because you neglected to notice that some clouds obscured your best snap rolls and some perfect loops. In the encore performance you even remember not to get between the sun and your instructors.

Dive bombing and fixed gunnery technique, advanced tactics in low-wing monoplanes—including high-altitude flight—and aerial torpedo dropping are mastered along with learning what to do with all the speed that's now at your command. Just as you think you know all there is to know, you're told to finish up the instrument-flying course, which will give you a Scheduled Air Transport rating.

So you arrive at a point where you can actually look back. It has been exhausting work, clouded by many a day of dark depression but with never a dull moment and with certain highspots of encouragement that will always sparkle in your memory. All the while you've been driving, driving toward one goal—a word from the commandant that you have met the test. And at last the summons comes.

Every man of your class who has been able to climb along with you through the five training squadrons assembles before the officers. Proud, in best uniforms that reflect inner exhilaration, you all look fondly toward the stock of little white boxes that hold the coveted Navy Wings. The admiral is pinning one on the lad next to you, and now, rigidly at attention, you hear the sharp point prick the starched white fabric of your own uniform coat. A hand is thrust into yours in firm clasp, and as you look up you notice a pair of wings like your own on the commandant's coat. "Why," it suddenly occurs to you, "he's gone through all of this himself."

The commandant proceeds down the line. At the end he steps back a few paces and addresses the class:

"Gentlemen, I am happy to present you with your Navy Wings, for you have earned them. Your work here at Pensacola has prepared you for what you must learn in carrying out your tasks in the fleet. You now belong to that group of officers known as naval aviators. Your predecessors have established a high standard of efficiency, progress and safety. They have made naval aviation what it is today. It is your duty to live up to that standard and contribute to it. It is a difficult assignment but I believe you can do it. I congratulate you and wish you a happy cruise. Report to my office for orders."

(Concluded next month)

"TUNE-UP, MY EYE!"
Says Mr. Smith

"If there's any tuning-up to be done on this car, I'll do it myself—and pocket the money I save. All she needs is to have the spark plugs cleaned, and maybe a little carburetor adjustment."



# CERTIFIED RE-WIRING FOR A BETTER SPRING TUNE-UP

The chances are 4 to 1 that your car's performance is suffering from faulty wiring —worn-out or undersize cables and poor connections. To get rid of these electrical "bottle-necks" and restore pep and power, drive into a Packard Certified Re-Wiring Station. That blue-and-gold Certified Re-Wiring sign outside the door means that your wiring will be checked by a trained mechanic with accurate instruments—and that all necessary cable replacements will be made with Packard cable.

"That's where you're wrong, Mr. Smith," points out Fred. "What your car needs most is a Certified Re-Wiring check-up with this voltmeter. You know, a car won't run sweet if 'bottle-neck' wiring is choking off the juice to the coil, distributor and spark plugs."

"Boy, that's something like it!" says Mr. Smith after Fred has done the job. "It ought to be good!" says Fred. "I found bad wiring and dirty connections in three of your circuits. She's fixed right now—with Packard cable."



### DEALERS

Ask your jobber about Packard Certified Re-Wiring, and have him arrange to show you the new Packard film, "Copper Dollars." Packard Electric Division, General Motors Corporation, Warren, Ohio.





THE STANDARD WIRING EQUIPMENT OF THE AUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRY

JUNE, 1940 129A

# Tapping Neptune's Treasure Chest

(Continued from page 842)

once despised shark is now sought by commercial fishermen. Thousands of gallons of sardine oil are used annually in paint, soap, linoleum, and other products. Fish meal, a by-product of sardine oil reduction, is used as fertilizer and cattle feed.

Short-wave radio has recently been adopted by fishermen for conversing at sea, the captain of a boat that has located a school of fish being able to advise other boats of his location. Lately progressive fishermen have started to use ultrasonic depth-finders to locate fish. Waves from the apparatus radiate under water and are reflected in a recognizable pattern to the boat when they strike a body of fish.

Federal and state agencies are conducting intensive research with the idea that the sea should be "farmed" instead of depleted of its fisheries wealth. The fisheries bureau of California, for instance, investigates the migratory and other habits of fish as far south as Panama and as far as 500 miles to sea. Some species such as the California sardine are threatened by overfishing and the expectation is that by proper restrictions this and other valuable species can be made to yield an annual "crop" large enough to satisfy demand and yet not so large that the species will disappear. One example of successful conservation is the fur seal herds of the Pribilof Islands, which, threatened with extinction early in the century, are now yielding a sustained supply of high-quality fur.

Aquiculture, the cultivation of oysters, crabs, and lobsters in quiet bays and estuaries, is practiced extensively and holds the promise of supplying tremendous quantities of food and other products.

The potential power resources of the sea have intrigued engineers for centuries and novel ideas have been proposed for harnessing the waves and tides. A number of small plants use tidal power along the New England coast. These, as would have been the case with the Passamaquoddy Project that was abandoned because of lack of a potential market for the power, trap large quantities of water in ponds at high tide and then allow the outflowing water from the ponds to spin electric turbines or turn mill shafts. Numerous wave machines have been patented or suggested, the most satisfactory of which appear to be

those that use the hydraulic ram principle, utilizing the fall of water to lift small quantities of water from the ocean to storage tanks at the top of a cliff. This raised water is then allowed to flow through a turbine or mechanical waterwheel. So far, tide or wave power seems unable to compete in most places with power obtained from other sources.

Using treated sea water for irrigation and drinking purposes is another idea that has received much thought and that some time may be tried in arid areas adjoining a coast. In one experiment sea water was circulated through semi-permeable pipes laid in the ground, most of the salt and mineral content of the water being trapped in the pores of the pipes while the relatively pure water slowly soaked through to the earth. Periodic renewal of the pipes or some means of removing their salt load would be necessary in a successful salt-water irrigation project. Such power and water schemes, impractical today, are probably no more fantastic than the plan for a fresh-water aqueduct from the Colorado river to Los Angeles appeared a few decades back, Dr. ZoBell suggests.

One study at Scripps is directed toward elimination of marine growths from the hulls of ships, an infestation that slows down ocean commerce and that causes losses of millions of dollars per year. All anti-fouling antidotes to date have used poisons with the idea of killing or slowing the growth of the parasites. The people at Scripps recently found that the speedretarding growths attach themselves to a primary layer of micro-organisms on the hull instead of directly to the hull itself. The suggestion now is that by preventing the first layer of bacteria and diatoms from fastening themselves to the hulls the problem may be solved.

More than two-thirds of the earth is covered with water and the nearly 300,-000,000 cubic miles of ocean directly or indirectly influences the life of every inhabitant of the world, yet in some respects science knows more about stars thousands of light-years away than it does about the seas of our own planet. Eventually, with more knowledge, civilization will make far greater use of the oceans' treasures.

# **HOW TO GET "MOST FOR YOUR MONEY"**



# **OUT OF A BATTERY**

To get the maximum satisfactory service from your storage battery, follow these four points of battery care...

PROPER LEVEL. Water must be added regularly to the battery, particularly during the summer months when evaporation is rapid, in order to keep the electrolyte at its proper level—1/4" to 3%" above the separators. Distilled water is preferable, since the continued use of water with mineral content will eventually damage the battery. Excessive consumption of water is usually due to overcharging.

2 IS TIGHT IN CARRIER. Excessive vibration shortens the life of a battery. Therefore, it is important to make sure that the clamps hold the battery firmly in its carrier. If clamps are too tight, the battery case will be damaged.

PERIODICALLY. A good battery cannot deliver its full power to the electrical system if the terminals have become dirty or corroded. Have terminals, battery cables and cable connections inspected regularly, and the terminals cleaned, when necessary, with steel wool or baking soda water. Your battery will serve you better—last you longer.

4 CHARGED. A battery does not store up electricity—it stores up chemical energy that is converted into electrical energy. A hydrometer reading will reveal whether the chemical condition of the battery is up to standard. Since this standard varies according to the temperature of the electrolyte and the length of time a battery has been in service, let your Delco battery dealer help you. Have him check your battery regularly, and avoid the danger of an undercharged battery.

# MOST IMPORTANT OF ALL—GET A GOOD BATTERY TO BEGIN WITH

Regardless of how much care you give to a battery, it won't give you good service if it wasn't designed and built right in the first place. The engineers who design Delco batteries have taken into account all the conditions that affect battery life and performance—heat, cold, vibration, starting, accessory

draw, self-discharge, and many other factors. They have used the information gained through years of building batteries for America's leading cars—40% of which are factory-equipped with Delco batteries. For long, dependable service, replace with a Delco—at your nearby Delco battery dealer's.

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JUNE, 1940 - 131A

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### Battling Bugs with Bacteria

(Continued from page 853)

eat some of the bacteria. I have also fed some to my dog, and my canary."

The first great success for Bogue was when he wiped out grasshoppers in the destructive invasion of southern California last spring. He merely sprayed the edges of the fields with bacteria-laden liquid, the grasshoppers spreading the infection themselves. Within twelve hours the "hoppers" in the infected fields were dead.

Recently the French government has begun the use of bacteria to kill rat fleas, which carry deadly bubonic plague. Other work being done indicates that bacteria are effective against termites and silver fish.

But to return to Bogue. His dog had fleas. Bogue sprayed him with bacteria. The fleas vanished. There were ants in his back yard. He sprayed them. They died.

How does it all work? How do scientists create this deadly infection which is harmless to man?

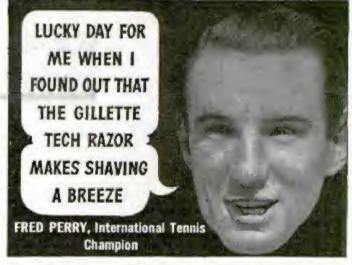
First, the bacteria which are fatal to the type of insect you wish to kill must be bred on a proper laboratory medium. Then their killing power must be intensified. Suppose you are intensifying a corn-worm killing bacteria. First, the bacteria are injected into worms. When the first worms die, indicating that the bacteria which infected them were of a particularly deadly strain, the dead worms are ground in a mortar and from the resultant culture new bacteria are grown. These are again injected into worms, and again cultures are made from those which die first, Eventually the bacteria reach their maximum potency, at which time they are placed on the culture medium and allowed to grow until needed.

Germ-laden liquid is sprayed on the edges of a field or orchard infected with insects, on an ant hill, on fleas, roaches, bedbugs, and other household pests. The dying insects infect other insects and form an endless chain of death.

So, in the not distant future, you may be able to kill your pest with a few puffs of mist from an atomizer. For man has a new weapon against those insects with which he struggles in the real "war of the worlds."

(Heating plants on big transport planes are large enough to heat a ten-room house.

JUNE, 1940 8/12/40



### Millions Of Men Now Enjoy Shaving Speed And Comfort Never Experienced Before

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### Sets Up Your Beard

The Tech has four basic advantages. One is the solid bar guard. This sets up your whiskers like a barber does, speeds shaving and prevents nicks and cuts.

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Today's Gillette Blue Blade has edges of a new kind. They're sharper, longer lasting. And because these blades are made to fit your Gillette Razor exactly, they spare you all the smart and burn of misfit blades. Ask your dealer for the new Tech Razor and five Gillette Blue Blades. You pay only 49c... and satisfaction is guaranteed.





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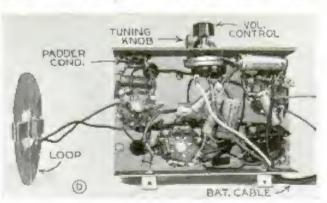


### Battery-Operated Receiver

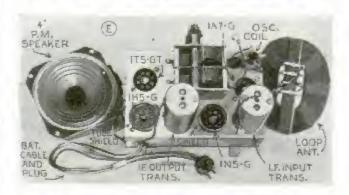
(Continued from page 937)

2, and numbered accordingly in diagram Fig. 3.

All parts are standard and cost about \$7.50 less tubes, battery and case. Radio parts houses catalog the 11/2-volt "A," 90volt "B" combination battery pack for \$2.36 net to experimenters and set build-



ers; the I.F. coils, oscillator coil and loop are all standard "DX" types under the numbers given. The metal base may be homemade or purchased formed and drilled, if desired. A detailed list of the original parts is available from Popular Mechanics radio department without charge. Although similar wooden cabinets are available, many builders will prefer to make their own. The dimensions shown in Fig. 1 are for the original hand-made mod-



el which was carefully sanded and given a coat of gray crystallizing lacquer.

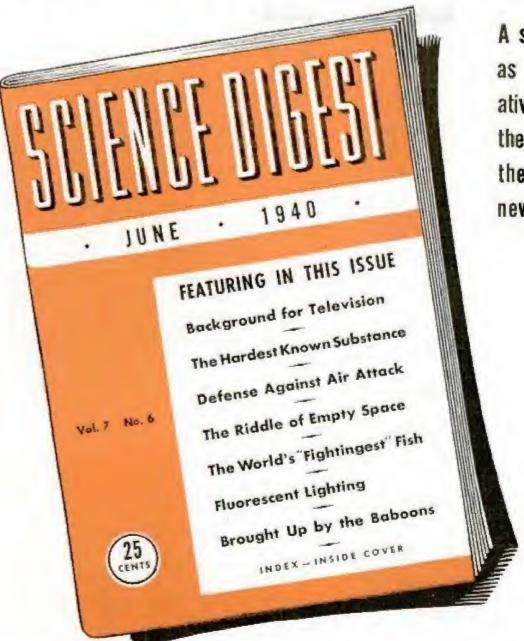
When wiring the set, make all connections with rosin-core solder and keep each grid and plate lead as short as possible. Plate terminals are No. 3 on tubes 1A7-G, 1N5-G and 1T5-GT; plate terminals for the diode tube 1H5-G are 3 and 5. Terminal 2 is filament positive and 7 is filament negative on all four tubes.

To balance the set outside the cabinet, set the loop in a vertical position, plug in

(Continued to page 136A)

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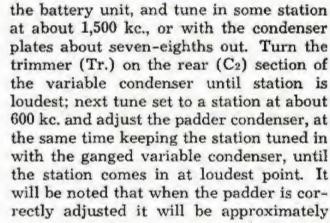
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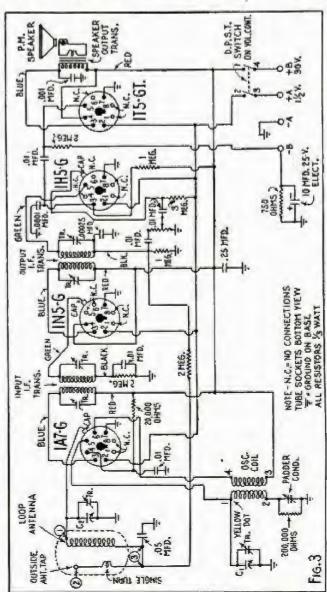
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JUNE, 1940 135A





one full turn from tight. The oscillator section (C1) trimmer (Tr.) should be set oneeighth turn from tight. Note-if set will not receive police calls loosen this trimmer slightly until they are heard. After above operations are completed, again tune to some weak station near 600 kc. and adjust trimmers (Tr.) on the I.F. transformers for maximum volume. The blueprint number for this article is R-279,



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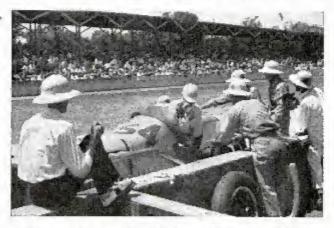


ment.

### 500 Miles to Go!

(Continued from page 837)

ward increased performance. Its eightcylinder engine is equipped with new camshafts and crankshaft, on which the firing order has been changed to provide smoother operation. This permits the engine speed to be raised somewhat, with a resultant increase in power. The engine, eight years old, has been rebuilt several times. The mechanical fuel pump, of aircraft engine type, is driven at slower speeds through a reduction gear, for great-



Driver yanks goggles off for a short rest while pit crew refuels and changes tires

er durability. The radiator mounting has been modified and the water-circulation system of the engine has been altered slightly to obtain more uniform cooling.

Chet Miller's car is receiving a new, lighter, crankshaft, to help in accelerating, and a pair of new type carburetors. This car, fitted with hydraulic brakes of large size, has been provided with a new hydraulic system this year. Two master cylinders are used, one for the front brakes and one for the rear, but the two are operated simultaneously through an equalizing linkage. This method of operation leaves one pair of brakes effective in case of a failure in the oil line to the other pair. This car has a four-cylinder unsupercharged Offenhauser engine mounted in a new rear-drive chassis.

The Alfa-Romeo owned by Bill White, in which Babe Stapp finished fifth in 1939, is also an Italian car. As originally constructed, it had independent wheel suspension in the rear, as well as the front. For the 1940 race the independently sprung rear axle has been replaced with a rigid system, suspended by a transverse spring. This is said

(Continued to page 141A)



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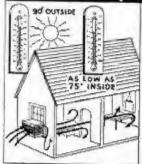


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(Continued from page 139A)

to improve the directional stability of the car and make it easier for the driver to handle. The Alfa-Romeo engine is supercharged, burns alcohol fuel, and has cast aluminum-alloy cylinder blocks in which the valves seat directly on the aluminum.

Lou Moore has two unsupercharged 270-cubic-inch four-cylinder cars entered. Mauri Rose will drive one and Cliff Bergere is named as driver for the other, which has been rebuilt and supplied with a new crankshaft and block since it was wrecked with Floyd Roberts in last year's race. Two unique "Man from Mars" cars, designed by Harry Miller, have their six-cylinder engines in the rear. Power is supplied to all four wheels. The engines are the only ones in the race that are fueled with ordinary gasoline. George Bailey will drive one of the cars.

Race experts think that Bob Swanson, driving the sixteen-cylinder "Sampson Special" is apt to set the pace in qualifying and draw the pole position in the starting line-up. His motor consists of two ninety-one-cubic-inch eight-cylinder engines set side by side on a common crankcase, the two crankshafts operating gears that spin the drive shaft. Trouble that sent the car to the pits last year has been remedied.

Sam Hanks will be driving Leon Duray's super-streamlined supercharged 183-cubic-inch engined racer, and Louis Durant will drive for Bill Schoof, a new entrant in the racing field, who has built a chassis and body for the 255-cubic-inch Offenhauser formerly owned by Billy Winn. Frank Brisko of Chicago has installed a new crankshaft in his car, which has an aluminum engine block strengthened with steel sleeves.

One of the surprising things about highspeed racing is that engines are rarely
damaged when cars crash. The body, axles
and frame take most of the punishment.
Louis Meyer's car that slid into the fence
almost at the end of last year's race has
been rebuilt and will be driven by Rex
Mays. The rear end and steering mechanism have been replaced and the chassis
checked. Tony Gulotta's car, which was
wrecked and burned last year, has been
discarded but he has mounted the same
Offenhauser engine in a new chassis and
body.



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### Sky High Without a Motor

(Continued from page 812)

Actually, there are four basic types of glider craft. There is, first, the glider. It is a primary trainer and will not remain aloft, even under the most favorable conditions. beyond its fixed gliding angle of perhaps fifteen to one. Glide angle means that at a height of 100 feet, the plane will glide a distance of 1,500 feet.

Next is the utility plane which combines limited soaring ability with its glider characteristics. It will have a glide angle of twenty to one, thus remaining aloft better and at greater length. One reason for the excellent safety record of gliders and utility planes is low landing speed of perhaps fifteen miles an hour, low flying speed of less than thirty miles and a correspondingly low "stall" speed. A well-designed glider will not spin. If stalled, the nose simply drops forward into another glide or at worst drops with a wing only slightly down, a position from which easy recovery is possible.

On mastering the utility glider you are ready for the sailplane, a high-performance craft which literally sails before the warm winds blowing upward from the earth's surface. It will have a glide angle of thirty to one or even higher and combines, so far as aeronautical principles will permit, high speed with a low sinking rate.

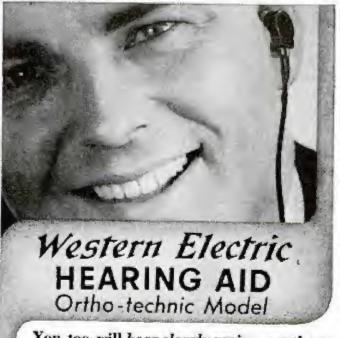
Among sailplane pilots the term "sinking rate" is employed instead of glide angle. The sinking speed means that such a craft will descend at so many feet per second, and relates to time. Glide angle is relative to the earth's surface and interprets itself in terms of distance. Thus, if you are at an elevation of 200 feet with a plane whose designed sinking speed is two and one-half feet per second, you will land in precisely eighty seconds, provided you encounter neither up nor down currents.

The fourth type is the two-place plane, of which there are but few in existence. On the west coast Bowlus builds a twoplace craft weighing less than 400 pounds. Some all-metal planes weigh 700 pounds.

Both gliders and sailplanes must have reasonable cockpit room and comfort, good visibility, a foolproof tow-cable release mechanism operated from the cockpit, high degree of maneuverability in the air and a

(Continued to page 144A)

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simplicity of construction that makes for quick assembly and dismantling. A welldrilled crew sets up a glider from trailer to flight readiness in four to eight minutes.

Scientifically designed sailplanes are so efficient aerodynamically that often they must be fitted with "spoilers," a hinged slot device top-wing for quick modification of lift. Otherwise under unusually strong thermal or ground-wind conditions it is difficult to get them down. Spoilers operate to some degree like wing flaps on powered craft which create drag vacuum at trailing edges. Spoilers do not merely interrupt airflow but definitely destroy wing-lift efficiency.

One reason why glider experience is an asset to the airplane pilot is because, from the moment a glider or sailplane pilot cuts loose from his tow, he is "on instrument." His rate of descent, as recorded by the variometer, is of the utmost importance and must be watched with close attention. Variometers are exceedingly sensitive altimeters that register to inches and with virtually no lag. Lifting a variometer from the ground to eye level brings instant response even for so short a distance. With it, each tiny upward luff of the wind is calibrated in foot-movement per second.

Another necessary instrument is a bankand-turn indicator. This is essential in flying through clouds because few pilots can trust their own senses of lateral balance and be sure they are flying rightside up.

Equally vital is an air-speed indicator, which helps the pilot avoid stalls by indicating flying speed with relation to the air. A barograph for recording every detail of a flight is invaluable. On return to earth the pilot can study its report at leisure and profit accordingly on future flights. A reliable compass is, of course, essential, as is a good thermometer. Some planes are equipped with wing-tip thermocouples, sensitive thermometers indicating the slightest variations of temperature within the distance of its own wing span.

To recently acquired knowledge of thermal currents may be ascribed the great advance in soaring since 1929, when Robert Kronfeld first developed the technique of cloud soaring. The German pilot Wolf Hirth, England's A. E. Slater, our own Jack O'Meara, the U. S. Navy's Lt. Robert Stanley, who holds the present American alti-

tude record of 17,000 feet—all contributed vitally to our present better understanding of the thermal.

Warm air lingers near the ground until large masses are heated. At intervals sometimes steady as a pulse, these break away from earth and float aloft like a soap bubble leaving a pipe. In diameter they may vary from a few feet to a mile or more and do not necessarily go straight up, but may drift. When a sailplane pilot is notified by his variometer that one of these up-moving masses has been encountered, his problem is to determine its area by flying through. Then by circling, sometimes in very tight spirals, if it is a limited mass, he is carried aloft. Wing-tip thermocouples help to determine the exact boundaries.

As a rule these thermals continue rising and, incidentally, expanding until the cooler atmosphere above condenses them into clouds. In such cases the best soaring conditions are found just below large cumulous clouds. Here a pilot might soar for hours, except that cloud masses are continually breaking up and reforming. The pilot then glides to another cloud and "hitches on."

Within the past five years thunderstorm soaring has come into vogue with the soaring experts. This calls for daring, parachutes and structural strength in equipment. Most of the high-altitude flights—the present world's record held by a German being above 30,000 feet—have been made under storm conditions. Intense cold, icing of wings and instruments and the beating of hail are some of the discomforts and hazards. Where the air-line pilot avoids thunderheads if possible, the venturesome sailplane pilot has explored them and contributed much to the world's knowledge of their phenomena.

Summer usually is the best time for soaring, although there are winter thermals. Hilly country provides the most constant source of energy, although the American distance record made last year by Woodbridge P. Brown—263 miles from Wichita Falls, Tex., to Wichita, Kan.—was set over country flat as a pancake. This area, where summer thermals abound, has the further advantage of furnishing safe landing fields everywhere. But whether it be the sand dunes at Frankfort, Mich., San Diego's Point Loma and Torrey Pines, Palm Springs and the Mojave, the 2,500-

(Continued to page 146A)

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Any boy is eligible for membership (1) who is a resident of the United States, (2) who is qualified and legally authorized to drive a car in his home state, (3) who is at least 14 years of age, (4) whose 19th birthday is not earlier than Aug. 29, 1940. The make of car owned or driven by an entrant or his family does not matter. The League is for all boys eligible under the four requirements stated above.

All that is necessary is to fill out and sign an Enrollment Blank which you can obtain from any Ford, Mercury or Lincoln-Zephyr automobile dealer. If you are unable to obtain an Enrollment Blank from the dealer, write directly to the Ford Good Drivers League, Dearborn, Michigan,

Read the blank carefully. It contains a Piedge of Careful and Courteous Driving, which must be signed before you will be accepted as a member. There are no dues or fees to pay — no obligations of any kind except to live up to your piedge of good driving. Mail your Enrollment Blank to the Ford Good Drivers League, Dearborn, Michigan.

### Enter this Contest

As soon as your Enrollment Blank is received, you will be sent a Membership Card, a lapel Membership Button, and a copy of the League's new 64-page book, "How to Become a Skilled Driver," by Ray W. Sherman.

You will also receive immediately full details and Entry Blank for the Nation-wide Driving Contest to which only members of the Ford Good Drivers League are eligible.

The State Elimination Contest requires:

- The answering of questions based largely on the new book, "How to Become a Skilled Driver."
- 2. A letter of not more than 300 words, on "What I Can Do Personally to Reduce Automobile Accidents."
- A 25-mile driving test, scored by a competent adult observer.

All contest material must be mailed to the Ford Good Drivers League on or before midnight, July 10, 1940.

The Board of Judges for both state and national contests will be: J. Stannard Baker, National Safety Council; Elmer P. Grierson, Publisher of The American Boy; Louis R. Morony. Executive Director, American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators; Dr. F. R. Noffsinger, Educational Consultant, American Automobile Association; Ray W. Sherman, author.

### National Finals at New York

This will be a notable occasion. Each of the winners from the 48 States will arrive in New York with his sponsor in time for registration Monday forenoon, August 26. They may travel to New York either by train or automobile. In either case, an amount equal to train fare and pullman both ways, plus an allowance for meals, will be paid by the League for both contestant and one sponsor. In New York, both will be guests of the League for five days.

On the afternoon of August 26, there will be a parade of State Champions. Cars for this and final driving tests will be furnished by the League.

On Tuesday and Wednesday the Contest Finals will be held. Contestants will be judged on:

- 1. Day and night driving.
- Maneuver operations, such as parking, braking, clutching, etc.
- Physical reaction tests, including vision.

Upon the results of these practical tests, the judges will select the National Champion and Runner-up and will award all scholarship prizes.

### The Banquet of Champions

On Thursday evening, August 29, these awards will be announced at the League's First Championship Banquet in New York City. Edsel Ford, President of the League, and members of the Honorary Board are scheduled to be present.

On Friday there will be a visit to Radio City for all contestants and their sponsors, a luncheon with prominent sports stars as guests, a big league baseball game, and a visit to the World's Fair at night.

Join the Ford Good Drivers League now and become eligible for this contest. Read again the requirements and mail Enrollment Blank to

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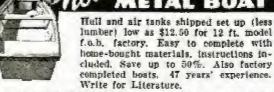


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The sport of soaring lends itself well to competition and there is now talk of soaring leagues in which clubs will organize themselves into competitive groups with perhaps a national pennant for winner of the glider "world series."

A successful meet was held at Arvin recently. Spectators by the hundreds attended daily, and week-end crowds of 20,000 shared in the fun. There were cash prizes of \$2,500, in addition to merchandise awards and trophies. Events included distance, altitude, duration, goal flights to surrounding cities, distance and return competitions, glider assembly races, spot landings, balloon bursting, target bombing with flour-filled paper sacks and others.

When you join or form a glider club, the Civil Aeronautics Authority will give you a student permit and on completion of training, following flight tests, your gliderpilot license. It will not, however, permit you to carry passengers without a further and more stringent examination.

Even more coveted is the Silver "C" and Gold "C" honorary certificates issued to sailplane pilots by the Federation Internationale Aeronautique for certain achievements. There are less than fifty of the former held in this country and only three Gold "C" ratings. To obtain a Silver "C" a pilot must have made a thirty-five-mile distance flight, 3,200 feet altitude and five hours duration. The Gold "C" calls for 200 miles distance, 10,000 feet altitude and possession of a Silver "C."

### Centrifuge Is Tool of Medicine for Diagnosing Disease

Centrifugal forces that have a pull 8,000,-000 times greater than gravity, created in modern centrifuges, hold the promise of becoming a new medical tool in the diagnosis of disease, according to Prof. J. W. Beams of the University of Virginia. He has reported the separation and purification of certain viruses by means of the terrific force produced in the whirling rotors. Centrifuges also have been successful in separating fractions of complex body proteins and determining their weight.

New Wonders of Agriculture

(Continued from page 803)

we learn, will keep a person in good health while similar vegetables, apparently just as good, from a different locality, may contain not nearly as much nutriment. Mineral content of the soils is different.

Some time ago a rancher had a brainstorm. His orchard was stunted and he thought he could help the trees along by a contraption that he believed would extract mysterious ether waves from the atmosphere. Around each tree he planted a circle of wire fencing. To everyone's amazement the trees began growing by leaps and bounds and the rancher decided that he really had found the secret of a new science.

But research men had a different explanation. The soil around the trees, they found, was deficient in zinc. After the galvanized wire was planted some of the zinc surface had leached off, making it available to the trees. Lack of zinc in the soil had been stunting them.

Soil analysts have learned to cure many agricultural problems by supplying minerals to soils that are naturally barren or from which needed minerals have been exhausted by continual planting. Especially has this work been done in tobacco and citrus crops. The needed elements are spread on the ground, sprayed on the leaves, or injected through the bark. Iron. manganese, potassium, boron, and zinc in minute amounts are among the elements required. Too much of any mineral is as bad as not enough. Tiny amounts of boron, for instance, are required by many growing things, yet as much as several parts per million in the soil may be injurious. One effect of excessive soil mineralization is found in some parts of the Rocky Mountain states where livestock grazing on native vegetation is apt to be stricken by selenium poisoning, the forage having absorbed some of the excessive selenium contained in the soil.

Much of what has been learned about plant nutrition has been discovered by experiments in hydroponics or water culture. Popularly supposed to have been developed three or four years ago, hydroponics has been a standard method of laboratory investigation for three-quarters of a cen-

(Continued to page 149A)



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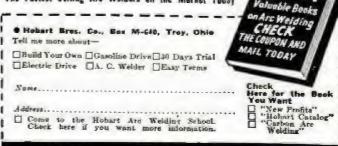
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(Continued from page 147A

K24 5

tury. Walnuts and oranges were harvested as long as twenty years ago from trees that were grown in nutritious water solutions.

An important offshoot of soil deficiency and plant nutrition research has been the discovery that fruits and vegetables grown in anemic soils may not contain large enough amounts of the so-called trace minerals to supply the nutriment that the body needs. Iron, calcium, phosphorus, iodine, copper, zinc and manganese are some of the trace minerals that the body obtains from the vegetables we eat, and we suffer when the foodstuffs themselves are deficient in the minerals.

In some instances children in poor health have gained weight rapidly after moving to new homes where vegetables richer in minerals were available. A taller, more vigorous, and probably more intelligent race has been predicted for the time when vegetables themselves are placed on a scientific diet that insures their carrying the minerals we need. Similarly, dairy and poultry products from penned animals that are fed dry rations are low in vitamin content and a current problem in animal husbandry is to increase the vitamin content of eggs and milk in cases where the chickens and cows are kept in barns or pens. "Pedigreed" foods containing high vitamin, protein and mineral values possibly could be sold at higher than normal prices.

Another kind of research promises the production of out-of-season vegetables and fruits by means of infrared radiations. Des veloped by Quinter E. Bashore, California citrus rancher, to protect his groves against frost damage, the infrared system uses carbon-filament lamps such as are used in "sun tan" machines and in automobile factories for hastening the drying of paint. Vegetation keeps growing even after dark when exposed to the rays, the effect of the lights being to increase the length of the day. The radiation warms trees and plants but does not warm the air.

The lamps protect Bashore's prize lemon grove against frost at about one-eighth the cost of smudging. His system is thermostatically controlled to turn on and off with changes in temperature. Oranges and bananas couldn't be raised in Alaska by employing the lights because the system is protective for only four or five degrees below freezing.

JUNE, 1940

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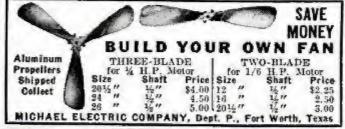


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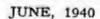
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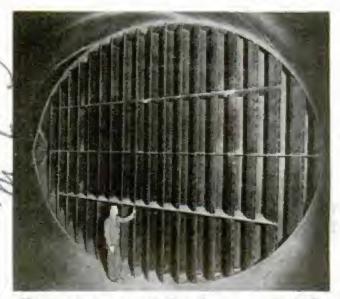
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# Job Hunting in Test Tubes

(Continued from page 831)

trouble-shooting, borrowing laboratory equipment and specialists, giving financial and expert aid to inventors, and passing around reference material. They are developing new products, new uses for old products, new materials, new manufacturing methods, new markets, and new jobs.

The area now is enjoying an industrial renaissance. Roy F. Williams, general manager of the Associated Industries of Massachusetts, says: "The New England business boom began in the research lab-



Nineteen-foot crescent-shaped vanes guide highvelocity wind around corners of wind tunnel

oratories. It came with the diversification of industry and the development of new products."

In the old days the fertile western plains always absorbed the unemployed from the east. Now that frontier is closed. Free land has vanished. Modern pioneers must explore the frontiers of science in search of new jobs.

Once jobless youth was given a plow horse and a covered wagon and told, "Go west, young man." Now he is given a row of chemical bottles and an assortment of laboratory apparatus and told, "Go test, young man."

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--leaves right foot free for accelerator

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though the driver were pushing town on the brake pedal. 3 When ready to proceed up the hill or incline, the driver steps on the accelera-tor, and lets out the clutch pedal. The brakes are automatically released as the car moves forward.

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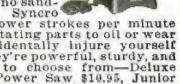
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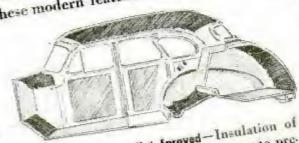
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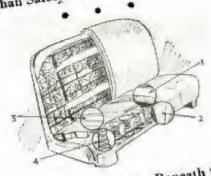
Although increased roominess is one major source of advanced comfort in the new Body by Fisher, an analysis of its construction reveals still others. Seat construction, D insulation and the type of glass used are important factors, too. Here are examples of these modern features as they apply to the new Body by Fisher on the 1940 Chevrolet. Reducing Eyestroin - There is no Safety Sheet



Pad-Type Insulation-Not Sprayed-Insulation of a car body serves a threefold purpose: to prevent radiation of engine heat and high climatic temperatures; to keep out cold; to deaden engine, road and traffic noises. Spraying insulation material on the panels is an inexpensive, old-type method some cars still employ. Body by Fisher, however, uses a more efficient method: the application of pad-type insulation, which insures adequate coverage at all points even in the lowest-priced models, Chevrolet, for instance, is the only car in its price class with a rock wool padded cowl.

"IT'S FIRST AGAIN" is what value-minded motorists are saying of the 1940 Chevrolet, And a major "first" most certainly is its new Body by Fisher - in beauty, comfort and safety. For instance, it provides the new Chevrolet Special De Luxe Sport Sedan shown here with stronger, safer Hi-Test Safety Plate Glass throughout all door windows and Ventipanes as well as the windshield.

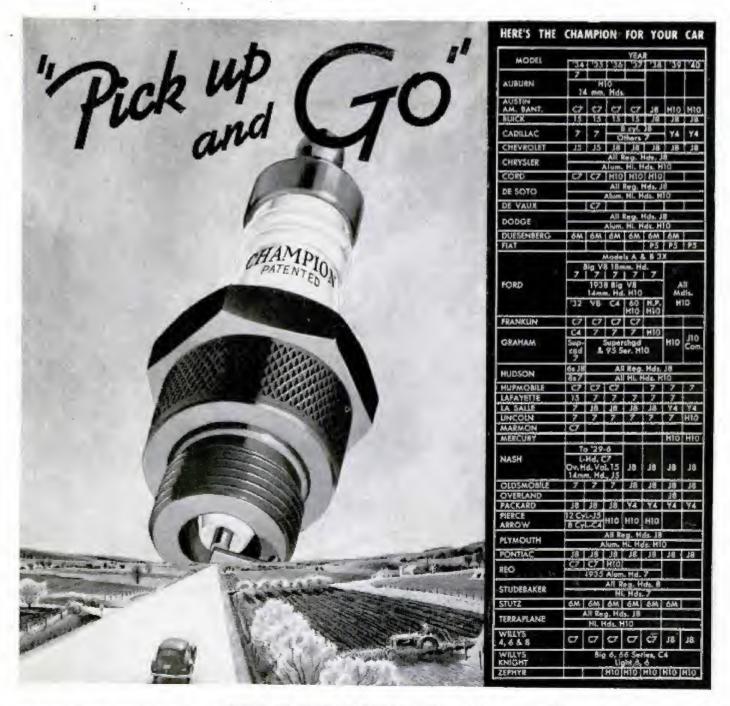
(or laminated "window") Glass in the new Body by Fisher. All glass areas-not only the windshield - contain genuine, Safety Plate Glass. With Safety Plate Glass there is considerably less distortion than with ordinary Safety Sheet Glass, Tests show, in fact, that Safety Sheet Glass produces 62% more eyestrain than Safety Plate Glass.



Constructed Like Fine furniture—Beneath the finest upholstery-cut to precise size and hand-fitted -you find all of the following features in the seats of the new Unisteel Turret Top Body by Fisher. First, a deep cotton blanket (1) atop an abundant layer of special padding (2). Then a burlap sheet (3) to keep the springs permanently in place. And the springs themselves (4) are specially designed for lasting resilience and to prevent sagging.







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